

PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT



The recordings Cedille produces and promotes reflect the visions of the musicians featured on them. Funded largely by charitable donations, Cedille Records provides a renowned platform for these musicians to pursue *their* artistic dreams.

We are happy to share additional information about repertoire, budget, collaborators, and, if possible, coordinate a visit to a recording session for the projects detailed below.

Your support helps Cedille further the careers of these superlative musicians!



FLUTRONIX, CHICAGO SINFONIETTA, MEI-ANN CHEN | *BLACK BEING*

FEBRUARY 2026

Celebrated duo Flutronix (Nathalie Joachim and Allison Loggins-Hull) and the nation's most diverse professional orchestra, the Chicago Sinfonietta (Mei-Ann Chen, Music Director), join forces on *Black Being* — an album featuring the work of the same name composed by Flutronix. Through themes of strength, sacrifice, beauty, fear, and survival, *Black Being* gives voice to the complexities of Black womanhood and provides a musical lens into black female cultural realities and conditions.

Supported by an Anonymous Donor, the Alice M. Ditson Fund of Columbia University, and the Robert and Isabelle Bass Foundation, Inc.



HAYMARKET OPERA COMPANY | *ARTASERSE*

MARCH 2026

The Haymarket Opera Company returns to Cedille with a recording of Leonardo Vinci's final opera, *Artaserse*. Premiered in Rome in 1730, the opera was staged frequently during the 18th century but had not been professionally produced in the United States until Haymarket's June 2025 production. This recording, based on that show, is expected to serve as a reference for future performances of the work as well as a showcase for a stellar cast, innovatively using many different voice types (not just countertenors) for roles originally portrayed by castrati, including the legendary Carestini and Caffarelli (Farinelli's main rivals).

Supported by Nancy Dehmlow, Patricia Kenney & Gregory O'Leary, Lori Julian for the Julian Family Foundation, Glory & Lynn Witherspoon, and Gail Belytschko, plus additional support from Patricia & Jerry Fuller, Mary Houston, and the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Fund for Vocal Recordings at Cedille Records

"We're driven by the opportunity to present these operas in a full production for a live audience, because they get to see all the drama. But there's a whole other layer, which is trying to find ways to provide accessibility to what we do. The opportunity to record a full opera is exciting because we have the opportunity to share our work so much further."

— Chase Hopkins, General Director



MARTA AZNAVOORIAN, CHICAGO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, SCOTT SPECK

MAY 2026

STACY GARROP: "INVICTUS" PIANO CONCERTO & *JOIE DE VIVRE*

Composer Stacy Garrop's new creation, *Invictus*, is a powerful piano concerto written for celebrated Chicago pianist Marta Aznavoorian. The concerto's title, *Invictus* — Latin for "unconquered" — speaks to themes of resilience and triumph. The piece capitalizes on Aznavoorian's virtuosic technique and expressive playing, blending sweeping lyricism with rhythmic vitality. This close collaboration between composer and soloist, combined with the authoritative playing of the Chicago Philharmonic under Artistic Director Scott Speck, resulted in a concert premiere of technical brilliance and emotional depth (captured in a recording session two days later). The recording balances *Invictus* with Garrop's lighthearted solo piece, *Joie de vivre*, also written for Aznavoorian.

Supported by Gail Belytschko, Joanne & Bob Bernstein, and Madeleine & Harvey Plonsker



JENNIFER KOH | THE AMERICAN CONCERTO, PART 1

AUGUST 2026

The American Concerto is a multi-season commissioning project that explores the form of the violin concerto and its potential to activate social change through music. Koh invited a diverse group of American composers to engage with socio-cultural topics, relevant and personally meaningful to them. The project invites composers to view their subjects through the lens of violin and orchestra, asking them to re-examine the conventional musical form of the concerto and establish a new form for the 21st century that engages the fluctuating dynamic between group and individual as a ripe metaphor for contemporary times. Part 1 features new violin concertos by Vijay Iyer (*Trouble*) and Courtney Brian (*Syzgy*) with the Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble conducted by Tim Weiss.

"The beauty of being able to work with Cedille is that I'm able to have an artistic vision. It's become such a rare thing in a classical recording. I'm forever grateful to Cedille, and I hope you'll support it."

— Jennifer Koh



OLIVER TALUKDER, MORIAH TRENK | BRIEFLY GORGEOUS

SEPTEMBER 2026

Oboist Oliver Talukder makes his solo recording debut — his prize for winning Cedille's second Emerging Artist Competition, sponsored by the Zell Family Foundation. The album features works with which Oliver wowed the audience at the Competition and the 2025 Soirée Cedille gala, including his wild arrangement of Arturo Márquez's beloved *Danzón No. 2*, on which Oliver also plays English horn, flute, and piccolo!

Supported by Nancy Dehmlow, Lori Julian for the Julian Family Foundation, Patricia Kenney & Gregory O'Leary, Olga & Darin Walsh, Helen Zell, and attendees of Soirée Cedille 2025

"A big challenge [for emerging artists] right now is getting our voices out there. We need a community to support us, to believe in us, and to give us the resources, along with the guidance. As an emerging artist, I'm trying to figure it all out, and . . . Cedille Records is really helping."

— Oliver Talukder



PACIFICA QUARTET | AMERICAN PORTRAITS

OCTOBER 2026

The culminating third album in the Pacifica Quartet's *American Collections* series will feature new commissions for narrator and string quartet by composers Jennifer Higdon and Gabriela Lena Frank covering uniquely American topics. The program also offers music that reflects on moments of grief and tragic events in American history. Samuel Barber's String Quartet in B minor reminds us of the cathartic calm brought to a mourning nation by the performance of its famous Adagio at JFK's funeral. George Crumb's revolutionary *Black Angels* "Thirteen Images from the Dark Land" was inspired by the Vietnam War.

Supported by the National Endowment for the Arts



TIMOTHY McALLISTER, MISCHA ZUPKO, ~NOIS, CIVITAS ENSEMBLE IN SYMPATHY

NOVEMBER 2026

Composer Mischa Zupko and saxophonist Tim McAllister share a long history, working together for over two decades. Featuring a new commission of the same name, *In Sympathy* will document several of Zupko's works for saxophone with him as pianist, ensuring recordings true to his intended sound. The program showcases the breadth of Zupko's compositions for this distinctive instrument as the ~Nois saxophone quartet and Civitas Ensemble join with McAllister on this unique recording.

Supported by Judy & Scott McCue and Bruce Oltman

PROJECTED RELEASE | 2026

"In Sympathy is a project 24 years in the making that [celebrates] the musical kinship I share with saxophonist Timothy McAllister, who has been the driving force behind this work. [It also] highlights my body of work featuring the saxophone, [an instrument that was] central to my early days as a composer."

— Mischa Zupko



2026 DIGITAL SINGLES

ALISA JORDHEIM, KUANG-HAO HUANG

PATRICE MICHAELS: ON THE JOYS OF RECORDED MUSIC

MARCH 2026

Patrice Michaels supplements her cycle of songs about Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (*The Long View*) with a newly released piece based on a letter Justice David Souter wrote to Cedille Founder and President James Ginsburg.

Supported by the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Fund for Vocal Recordings at Cedille Records

JORY VINIKOUR & FRIENDS | MISCHA ZUPKO: HARPSICHORD CONCERTO

JUNE 2026

Mischa Zupko's *Harpsichord Concerto*, premiered in 2003, is a thoroughly modern, highly virtuosic, three-movement work scored for harpsichord and string quartet that draws and transforms influences from J.S. Bach, François Couperin, and traditional Baroque themes.



NICOLE CABELL, TYSON DEATON | SAINT-GEORGES SONGS

2027

Following her acclaimed performance on Haymarket Opera Company's world-premiere recording of Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges' *L'Amant Anonyme*, 2005 BBC Cardiff Singer of the World (and Chicago native) Nicole Cabell returns to Cedille for an album of premiere recordings of songs by Bologne, from a new edition created by conductor-pianist Tyson Deaton, Cabell's collaborator on this landmark recording.



~NOIS | 10th ANNIVERSARY ALBUM

2027

In celebration of its 10th anniversary, ~Nois will make its Cedille Records debut. The album of world premieres' centerpiece will be a new work by internationally acclaimed composer Nico Muhly. The rest of this celebratory album will feature new and innovative works showcasing a diverse collection of composers connected to Chicago including Shawn Okpebholo, Hans Thomalla, and Bobby Ge.

Supported by Lori Julian for the Julian Family Foundation, Bruce Oltman, and Eileen & David Zampa

"Recorded media is such an integral part of any musician or ensemble's legacy and there couldn't be a better way to commemorate 10 years of -Nois Quartet than with our upcoming album on Cedille. The group has thrived this past decade thanks to the vibrant and welcoming Chicago music community, and we are proud to be showcasing so much Chicago music on our city's premier classical music label."



— Julian Velasco, ~Nois



JORGE OSORIO, DESIRÉE RUHSTRAT | MUSIC FROM MEXICO FOR VIOLIN AND PIANO

2027

Music from Mexico for Violin and Piano showcases a collection of lyrical, romantic works that reflect the elegance and charm of the country's salon tradition, a repertoire rarely heard outside of Mexico today. The program holds deep personal meaning for pianist Jorge Federico Osorio, particularly the works of José Sabre Marroquín, a close friend of legendary violinist Henryk Szeryng — and of Osorio's parents. On various occasions, Marroquín would present his compositions to Szeryng at Osorio's boyhood home in Mexico City, to be played for the first time.

"Desirée and I read through many of these pieces together following my move to Chicago in 1998. We are delighted to rekindle that collaboration to bring this expressive and underrepresented repertoire to a wider audience."

— Jorge Federico Osorio



EIGHTH BLACKBIRD | MUSIC OF JONATHAN BAILEY HOLLAND

2027

Chicago's new music supergroup returns to Cedille with a composer portrait of Jonathan Bailey Holland, Dean of the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University. Eighth Blackbird has been performing Holland's music for years. In 2023, Holland also joined the ensemble as a guest at their Creative Lab residency to develop and perform new works. Comprising a wide range of Holland's chamber music compositions, the album will feature several recorded premieres.



BRITTON-RENÉ COLLINS | ALL-MARIMA ALBUM

2027

Hailed as an “Astounding Virtuoso” and “Exhilarating” performer, Britton-René Collins (recently appointed to the Chicago College of Performing Arts percussion faculty) makes her Cedille debut with a program that challenges expectations about the range of sounds a solo marimba can produce (in the right hands). Composers featured include Minoru Miki, Errrollyn Wallen, Elias Hadaad, Britton-René Collins, Samuel Kerr, Joseph Schwantner, Csaba Zoltán Marján, and Bruno Mantovani.

Supported by the Robert & Isabelle Bass Foundation, Inc.



DESIRÉE RUHSTRAT | SOLILOQUY: SOLO VIOLIN WORKS BY HOLOCAUST COMPOSERS

2028

Soliлоquy: Solo Violin Works by Holocaust Composers is dedicated to reviving powerful solo repertoire by composers whose voices were permanently silenced or severely marginalized during the Holocaust, including Zoltán Székely, Géza Frid, Pál Hermann, Dick Kattenburg, Gideon Klein, Erwin Schulhoff, and Marius Flothuis. These composers worked under conditions of persecution, displacement, and profound uncertainty; their works demonstrate extraordinary artistic resilience and expressive depth.



VARIOUS | OKPEBHOLO CHAMBER WORKS

2028

Okpebholo Chamber Works brings together Chicago composer Shawn E. Okpebholo and an all-Chicago roster of acclaimed performers, marking the first recording devoted exclusively to Okpebholo’s chamber music. The album presents works deeply connected to Chicago’s history, communities, and cultural life. Collaborators include Eighth Blackbird, violinist Rachel Barton Pine, Picos Ensemble, Grossman Ensemble, and saxophonist Julian Velasco, among others. These world-premiere recordings will offer a vivid portrait of Chicago through artists who have shaped — and been shaped by — the city’s vibrant music scene.

“While showcasing the range of my chamber writing, the repertoire on this album connects to the city of Chicago in a meaningful way. Performed by some of the most esteemed artists and ensembles in Chicago, this album celebrates the creative relationships I’ve developed over the past 16 years.”

— Shawn Okpebholo



D-COMPOSED | SOUNDS LIKE US

2028

Sounds Like Us marks the commercial debut recording of D-Composed, Chicago’s only chamber music ensemble dedicated exclusively to Black performers presenting the music of Black composers, boldly reexamining what comprises “classical” music — and who gets to be called a “composer.” This expansive double-length album places works by Jessie Montgomery, Nathalie Joachim, Tomeka Reid, and Florence Price, among others, in conversation with broader Black musical lineages and aesthetics. By centering both historic figures and contemporary innovators, the project reframes Black music as foundational to the classical tradition rather than peripheral to it. Above all, *Sounds Like Us* is an exuberant celebration of Black joy, stylistic breadth, and creative abundance.

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