

# **Twenty-First Annual DePaul National Concerto Competition for Young Performers**

## ***Steve Balderston, cello***

Stephen Balderston is a master chamber musician and coach of the highest caliber. Professor of Cello at DePaul University School of Music, Balderston maintains a robust performance and teaching schedule in a variety of venues, presents master classes, and adjudicates around the United States. He has performed solo works and chamber music with Daniel Barenboim, Pierre Boulez, Christoph Eschenbach, Lynn Harrell, Yo-Yo Ma, Menahem Pressler, Gil Shaham, Joseph Silverstein and Pinchas Zukerman, and has appeared as featured artist at the Ravinia Festival, the International Festival-Institute at Round Top, the American String Project, and Bargemusic, as well as many other national and international festivals over his long career.

Balderston was the cello coach for the first five years of Daniel Barenboim's "West-Eastern Divan" workshops in Weimar, Germany; Chicago, IL; and Seville, Spain. He has also been featured in both Shanghai, China's international music festival and the International String Music Festival in Taiwan. He has been a regular participant, coach, and soloist at many prestigious summer venues, including the International Festival – Institute at Round Top, the Grand Teton Music Festival, the ARIA International Summer Academy, and Marrowstone Music Festival. Balderston is a member of the American Chamber Players.

Balderston was Assistant Principal Cello with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for 10 years, and prior to that, a member of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra for 10 years. He performed as soloist with both orchestras. Balderston began his studies on the cello with Gabor Rejto in his native southern California and earned both Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Lynn Harrell.

## ***Cheng-Hou Lee, cello***

Cellist Cheng-Hou Lee, a native of Taiwan, received both the bachelor's and master's degrees from the Juilliard School. He also earned a master's degree in chamber music at Rice University, where he was a founding member of the award-winning Gotham Quartet. He was a full-scholarship student at New England Conservatory, where he received his Doctorate of Musical Art. Lee has worked with world renowned artists such as Yo-Yo Ma, Harvey Shapiro, Janos Starker, Mstislav Rostropovich, Zara Nelsova, Paul Katz, Steven Iserlis, Raphael Wallfisch, Gary Hoffman, Tim Eddy and members of the Juilliard, Tokyo and Alban Berg Quartets.

Cheng-Hou has won the Chi-Mei Foundation Award for Outstanding Talents, the concerto competition at the Manhattan School of Music, Tuesday Musical Club Competition in Houston and twice the National Cello Competition in Taiwan, and he has appeared on WQXR radio station in New York City, WFMT radio station in Chicago and many others in the U.S.

He was a recipient of a career grant from the Quanta Education Foundation, and he has made solo and chamber music appearances throughout the United States, as well as in Germany, Italy, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Lee served as a teaching assistant to Paul Katz for five years, and he has taught or

conducted master classes at schools such as University of Michigan, University of Connecticut, University of Delaware, East Carolina University, Southern Illinois University, UCLA, Wheaton College, California State University, Northeastern Illinois University, Brigham Young University, University of Tennessee, University of Illinois Chicago, Inje University in South Korea and the Tainan Woman's College of Arts and Technology in Taiwan.

He was also a faculty member at the Main Line Chamber Music Seminar in Pennsylvania, the "House of Cello" Festival, as well as Bay Chamber Concerts "Next Generation" Program.

As a chamber musician, Lee performed with renowned artists such as cellists Paul Katz and Yehuda Hanani, violinists Don Weilerstein, Shmuel Ashkenasi, Robert Chen, Rachel Barton Pine and Lucy Chapman, violists Kim Kashkashian, Hsin-Yun Huang, Richard Young and Richard O'Neill, clarinetist Anthony McGill, pianists Ruth Laredo, Meng-Chieh Liu and Christina Dahl, the Borromeo String Quartet, the Miami String Quartet and American composer William Bolcom.

In addition, he has appeared in concerts for the David G. Whitcomb Foundation, Ravinia Festival's Steans Institute, Jordan Hall's 100th anniversary in Boston, the Omega Ensemble in New York City, the Charles Wadsworth and Friends Series, Robert Kapilow's "What Makes It Great?" Series at Lincoln Center, Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival and Summermusic at Market Square Concerts.

Recently, Lee has given solo recitals at the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts Series and the Susa Marshall Memorial Concert Series, and appeared as a concerto soloist with Chicago Chamber Orchestra, Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra and NIU Philharmonic. In addition, he has performed regularly with the Chicago Chamber Musicians, and made other solo or chamber appearances in the Chicago area.

Lee is currently the cellist of the Avalon String Quartet, which previously served as string faculty at Indiana University at South Bend, and in August 2007 the Avalon Quartet succeeded the world-renowned Vermeer Quartet as quartet-in-residence at Northern Illinois University. The quartet presents its own series in downtown Chicago at the Art Institute of Chicago, and has previously showcased the complete Beethoven and Bartók cycles. During summers, the quartet has been on faculty at festivals such as the Interlochen Center for the Arts' Advanced String Quartet program, Madeline Island Music Camp, the Icicle Creek Chamber Music Festival and the Hot Springs Festival.

### ***Christopher Harding, piano***

Pianist Christopher Harding maintains a flourishing international performance career, generating acclaim and impressing audiences and critics alike with his substantive interpretations and pianistic mastery. He has given frequent solo, concerto, and chamber music performances in venues as far-flung as the Kennedy Center and Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.; Suntory Hall in Tokyo; the National Theater Concert Hall in Taipei; the Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary; and halls and festival appearances in Newfoundland, Israel, Romania, and China. His concerto performances have included concerts with the National Symphony and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestras, the San Angelo and Santa Barbara Symphonies, and the Tokyo City Philharmonic, working with such conductors as Andrew Sewell, Eric Zhou, Taijiro Imori, Gisele Ben-Dor, Fabio Marchetti, Randall Craig Fleisher, John DeMain, Ron Spiegelman, Daniel Alcott, and Darryl One, among others. His chamber music and duo collaborations have included internationally renowned artists such as clarinetist Karl Leister, flautist

Andras Adorjan, and members of the St. Lawrence and Ying String Quartets, in addition to frequent projects with his distinguished faculty colleagues at the University of Michigan. He has recorded solo and chamber music CDs for the Equilibrium and Brevard Classics labels. He has additionally edited and published critical editions and recordings of works by Claude Debussy (Children's Corner, Arabesques, and shorter works) and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (Viennese Sonatinas) for the Schirmer Performance Editions published by Hal Leonard.

Harding has presented master classes and lecture recitals in universities across the United States and Asia, as well as in Israel and Canada. His most recent tours to Taiwan, Hong Kong, and mainland China included presentations and master classes at Hong Kong Baptist University, National Taiwan Normal University, Soochow University, the National Taiwan University of Education, and conservatories and universities in Beijing (Central and China Conservatories), Tianjin, Shanghai, Hefei, Guangzhou, Shenyang, Dalian, and Chongqing. He has performed and lectured numerous times in Seoul, including lecture recitals and classes at Seoul National University, Ewha Women's University, and Dong Duk University. He has served extended tours as a Fulbright senior specialist at the Sichuan Conservatory of Music in Chengdu, China (2008), and also at Seoul National University (2011). While teaching at SNU, he simultaneously held a Special Chair in Piano at Ewha Womans University.

In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate piano performance and chamber music at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance, Harding also serves on the faculty of the Indiana University Summer Piano Academy and is a frequent guest artist and teacher at the MasterWorks Festival in Winona Lake, IN. Recent summer festivals have also included the Chautauqua Institution in New York and the Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival in Tampa, Florida.

Harding was born of American parents in Munich, Germany, and raised in Northern Virginia. His collegiate studies were with Menahem Pressler and Nelita True. Prior to college, he worked for 10 years with Milton Kidd at the American University Department of Performing Arts Preparatory Division, where he was trained in the traditions of Tobias Matthay. He has taken 25 first prizes in national and international competitions and in 1999 was awarded the special "Mozart Prize" at the Cleveland International Piano Competition, given for the best performance of a composition by Mozart. His current recording projects include the Brahms viola/clarinet sonatas and the clarinet trio, with clarinetist Dan Gilbert, violist Stephen Boe, and cellist Yeonjin Kim.

### ***Daniel Paul Horn, piano***

An active and versatile pianist, Daniel Paul Horn is Professor of Piano and Chair of Keyboard Studies at the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music, where he was honored with a 2009 Senior Academic Achievement Award for sustained excellence in scholarship. As solo recitalist, he has appeared at colleges and universities throughout North America, at the American Liszt Society Festival, and in live broadcasts over WFMT-FM, on its Pianoforte Foundation Fazioli Salon Series and its 2010 Beethoven Piano Sonata series. As concerto soloist, he has performed with various Midwestern orchestras, including the Detroit Symphony Orchestra; in 2015, he made his European orchestral debut with the Sarajevo Philharmonic, performing *Lumen* by Wheaton alumnus Jacob Bancks.

An avid chamber musician, he regularly collaborates with members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. With the MasterWorks Ensemble, he has played in Bermuda and at the 2010 Beijing Modern Music Festival; in addition, he has performed with the Ying String Quartet, the Rembrandt

Chamber Players, cellists Leonardo Altino and Stephen Balderston; pianists Alexander Djordjevic and Caroline Hong; and Guarneri Quartet violinist John Dalley. He also works with noted singers. Working with contemporary composers, he has premiered music by George Arasimowicz, Jacob Bancks, Delvyn Case, David M. Gordon, Neal Harnly, Patrick Kavanaugh, Daniel Kellogg, and Max Raimi. During the 2020-2021 season, he will give the world premiere of Seven Mysteries for solo piano, composed for him by Richard Danielpour through a commission made possible by a generous gift to Wheaton College.

As an early keyboardist, he was harpsichordist in performances of Handel's Messiah under the baton of John Nelson, and has twice performed on the Historical Piano Concert series at the Frederick Collection in Ashburnham, Massachusetts. In 1997, he recorded the critically praised disc "Wanderings" for Titanic Records on an 1829 Graf fortepiano, and in 2010 released Sehnsucht: Music of Robert Schumann; he also recorded for the Centaur label with CSO cellist Donald Moline, for the Canadian Music Centre with soprano Carolyn Hart, and for the Innova label with flutist Jennie Oh Brown.

A Detroit native, Horn studied at Peabody with Walter Hautzig, and at Juilliard, where he studied with Martin Canin and Felix Galimir, and earned his doctorate. He has also coached with Jerome Lowenthal, Ann Schein, Joseph Bloch, Roy Howat, and Menahem Pressler, for whom he twice served as guest assistant at Indiana University. In addition to his duties at Wheaton, he has been a faculty artist at the Sewanee, Adamant, Blue Mountain, and MasterWorks summer festivals, and has served on the jury of the Chicago International Music Competition.

### ***Blaise Magniere, violin/viola***

Praised for his "virtuosic skill" (Stage and Cinema), "poised expression" and "sweet, refined tone" (Chicago Classical Review), French violinist Blaise Magniere is a highly acclaimed chamber musician, active both in the U.S. and abroad. He has toured extensively, including venues such as Wigmore Hall in London, Herculessaal in Munich, the Schneider Series at Carnegie Hall, Ravinia Festival, Mostly Mozart, La Jolla Festival and the Caramoor Festival. As the first violinist of the Avalon String Quartet, he was the top prizewinner of the Munich ARD Competition and Grand Prize winner at the Concert Artists Guild Competition.

His performances and conversation have been heard on BBC, CBC (Canada), ABC (Australia) and France-Musique. He has recorded for the Channel Classics, Cedille, New Tangle and Albany labels and earned the 2002 Chamber Music America/WQXR Record Award. A highly dedicated teacher, he has successfully prepared students for orchestral auditions and top graduate programs.

As an assistant to the Juilliard String Quartet, he coached chamber music at the Juilliard School. He was on faculty at Indiana University South Bend before arriving at Northern Illinois University.

### ***Dmitri Pogorelov, violin/viola***

Critically acclaimed violinist Dmitri Pogorelov is equally at home as a soloist, chamber musician, educator, and orchestra leader.

A seasoned orchestral performer, Mr. Pogorelov currently serves as Acting Assistant Concertmaster with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. He has worked under Bernard Haitink, Pierre Boulez,

Sir Mark Elder, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Larry Rachleff, and Esa-Pekka Salonen as Concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony's Civic Orchestra. Dmitri serves as Concertmaster of Lancaster Festival Orchestra (OH), and Associate Concertmaster of the Peninsula Music Festival (WI). He was a member of the Phoenix Symphony violin section until 2019.

An in-demand chamber musician, Mr. Pogorelov has served as First Violinist with the Kontras Quartet. He also performed with members of Vermeer, Avalon, Miami, Amernet, Spektral, and the Fine Arts string quartets, the Lincoln Trio, Eighth Blackbird Ensemble, as well as principal players of the leading American and European orchestras.

As a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestra concertmaster Dmitri has performed at the Chicago Symphony Center, the Ravinia Festival, Carnegie Hall, the Red Rocks Amphitheatre, the National Gallery of Art, Paul Hall (Juilliard School), the Kennedy Center, Jordan Hall (New England Conservatory), Yehudi Menuhin Forum (Bern, Switzerland), and has also been featured on CBS, NBC, PBS, NPR, WBEZ and WFMT Chicago. Dmitri has collaborated with renowned jazz and bluegrass artists – Branford Marsalis, the Kruger Brothers, and Steve Martin, performing on the main stages of Telluride, Rocky Grass, Merlefest and IBMA festivals. Dmitri can be heard on recordings of chamber music by Gunther Schuller, Yehudi Wyner, Eric Ewazen, Kevin Volans, Dan Visconti, and Jens Krüger.

Dr. Pogorelov holds degrees in music performance from Northwestern (DMA), DePaul (MM), and Lynn (BM) universities, having studied with Gerardo Ribeiro, Ilya Kaler, Elmar Oliveira, and Sergiu Schwartz.

### ***Sergey Gutorov, winds***

Sergey Gutorov currently holds the position of Second/ E-flat clarinet in Sarasota Orchestra season (2023-2024), Principal clarinet in Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra and Principal clarinet in Des Moines Metro Opera and Assistant Principal/E flat clarinet in the South Bend Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Gutorov frequently performs with the Chicago Lyric Opera. He began studying the clarinet at age 9 with his father in Kursk, Russia. At age 14 he was accepted into the Moscow State Wind College and graduated with diplomas in both clarinet and conducting. He also received a diploma from the State Classical Academy Maimonid and diploma in Orchestral Studies from Roosevelt University in Chicago. From 2008-2010, Sergey was a member of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. During this time he was a featured soloist in Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Prior to entering Roosevelt University, he held the positions of Assistant Principal Clarinet in both the Ministry of Defense Orchestra of the Russian Federation and The Moscow Symphony Orchestra. His principal teachers include Sergey Gutorov Sr., Vladimir Sokolov, Evgeny Petrov, Ivan Butirsky and John Bruce Yeh.

### ***Marie Tachouet, winds***

Marie Tachouet is Principal Flute of the Lyric Opera of Chicago orchestra, a position she has held since 2012. She is Program Director of Woodwinds and serves on the flute faculty at Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts and is on the chamber music faculty at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music. Marie has performed as principal flute with the Seattle Symphony, San Diego Symphony, and Milwaukee Symphony, and has also performed with the Pittsburgh and Oregon symphonies. Prior to her appointment in Chicago, Marie was Principal Flute of the Sarasota Opera

Orchestra and held acting principal flute roles with the Santa Fe Opera and Pittsburgh Opera orchestras.

An advocate of contemporary music, Marie has worked closely with composers including Charles Wuorinen, Elliot Carter, James Stephenson, and John Zorn in venues such as the Library of Congress, Carnegie Hall, the Guggenheim, and the National Flute Association. Praised by the New York Times for her “extraordinary agile” solo playing, she has been a soloist with the Artosphere Festival Orchestra, Chicago Philharmonic, Olympia Symphony, Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, Akron Symphony., and University of Michigan Symphony Band. Marie frequently leads guest masterclasses at universities and has been a guest faculty member at The Consummate Flutist and Credo Flute workshops. Marie collaborated with Price & Co. Publishing as the flute editor for Book of Arias, a collection of 33 opera arias transcribed for flute that was released in May 2021.

Marie graduated summa cum laude from the University of Michigan and Carnegie Mellon University as a student of Jeanne Baxtresser, Alberto Almarza, and Amy Porter. She is the sole recipient of the 2016 Paul Boylan award, a recognition given to Michigan alumni for outstanding contributions in the field of music. In addition to Tanglewood, she attended the Music Academy of the West, Pacific Music Festival, and Spoleto Festival. A native of Portland, Oregon, she is a alumna of the Portland Youth Philharmonic and Metropolitan Youth Symphony orchestras.

Marie plays a Brannen Brothers flute with a J.R. Lafin headjoint.