

## Bach, the Capellmeister

The life and career of Johann Sebastian Bach's found him in many different roles in many different locations, all confined to a limited geographical space.

During the course of his life Bach worked in Lüneburg, Weimar, Arnstadt, Mühlhausen, Weimar, Köthen, and Leipzig. His roles ranged from a paid chorister in Lüneburg to the director of the Music Society of Leipzig. It was during his time in Köthen (1717-1723) that he assumed the position of Capellmeister (orchestra director) in the service of Prince Leopold von Anhalt-Köthen.

The 20th anniversary Bach at New Years focuses on music composed during his time in Köthen.

## Performers Biographies – Soloists

Violinist **Eugene Drucker**, a founding member of the Emerson String Quartet, has also been active as a solo artist. He has appeared with the orchestras of Montreal, Brussels, Antwerp, Liege, Austin, Hartford, Richmond, Toledo and the Rhineland-Palatinate, as well as the American Symphony Orchestra and the Aspen Chamber Symphony.

A graduate of Columbia University and the Juilliard School, where he studied with Oscar Shumsky, Mr Drucker was concertmaster of the Juilliard Orchestra, with which he appeared as soloist several times. He made his New York debut as a Concert Artists Guild winner in the fall of 1976, after having won prizes at the Montreal Competition and the Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels.

Mr. Drucker has recorded the complete unaccompanied works of Bach, recently reissued by Parnassus Records, and the complete sonatas and duos of Bartok, for Biddulph Recordings. In the fall of 2002, he began a teaching affiliation with his Emerson colleagues at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He has been a member of the Emerson Quartet for almost 30 years. The quartet plays at least 100 concerts per year all over the world. They have won six Grammy awards (including two for Best Classical Album), and the Avery Fisher Prize. Mr. Drucker is a frequent guest soloist with the Berkshire Bach Ensemble.

Violinist **Ani Kavafian** is enjoying a prolific career as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. She has performed with virtually all of America's leading orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and the symphony orchestras of St. Louis, Delaware, Detroit, San Francisco, Atlanta, Seattle, Minneapolis, Utah, and Rochester. Her numerous solo recital engagements include performances at New York's Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully, as well as in venues across the country.

In recent years, she has premiered and recorded a number of important new works written for her, including Henri Lazarof's *Divertimento for Violin and String Orchestra* with the Seattle Symphony, Todd Machover's concerto *Forever and Ever*, for computerized violin and orchestra with the Boston Modern, and Michelle Ekizian's *Red Harvest*, with the Brooklyn Philharmonic. In addition, Ms. Kavafian gave the west coast premiere of Aaron Kernis' *Double Concerto for Violin and Guitar*, with guitarist Sharon Isbin and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Kavafian has appeared around the country with her sister, violinist and violist Ida Kavafian. Together in recital, and as soloists, they have performed with the symphonies of Detroit, Colorado, Tucson, San Antonio, and Cincinnati, and have recorded the music of Mozart and Sarasate on the Nonesuch label. They celebrated the 25th anniversary of their first performance at Carnegie Hall in the fall of 2008.

Ani Kavafian is an Artist-Member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York, touring with them throughout the U. S. and Canada, in addition to performing, since 1979, in their regular series at New York's Alice Tully Hall. She is in great demand at renowned summer music festivals such as Ravinia, Chamber Music Northwest, Seattle Chamber Music Festival, OK Mozart, Virginia Waterfront International Arts Festival, Music from Angel Fire, and Bridgehampton.

She is a member of the daSalo String Trio with violist Barbara Wesphal and cellist Gustav Rivinius. Recently, Ms. Kavafian has joined with clarinetist David Shifrin and pianist Andre-Michel Schub and will be performing as violinist and violist with them. Along with cellist Carter Brey, she is the artistic director of the New Jersey chamber music series "Mostly Music."

Ms. Kavafian's list of prestigious awards includes the Avery Fisher Prize and the Young Concert Artists International Auditions. She has appeared at the White House on three separate occasions and has been featured on many network and PBS television music specials. Her recordings can be heard on the Nonesuch, RCA, Columbia, Arabesque and Delos labels. This past fall Ms. Kavafian and Kenneth Cooper released a live recording of Bach's *Six Sonatas for Violin and Fortepiano*, on the Kleos Classics label of Helicon Records. Ms. Kavafian is a regular guest soloist with the Berkshire Bach Ensemble.

Born in Istanbul, Turkey of Armenian descent, Ani Kavafian began her musical studies with piano lessons at the age of three. At age nine, shortly after her family moved to the United States, she began the study of the violin with Ara Zerounian and, at 16, won first prize in both the piano and violin competitions at the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. Two years later, she began violin studies at the Juilliard School with Ivan Galamian, eventually receiving a master's degree with highest honors.

Ms. Kavafian resides in Northern Westchester, New York with her husband, artist Bernard Mindich, and their son, Matthew, now a student at the University of Puget Sound. She is on the faculties of both Yale and Stony Brook Universities. She plays the 1736 Muir McKenzie Stradivarius violin.

Internationally acclaimed conductor and violinist **Joseph Silverstein** was Music Director of the Utah Symphony Orchestra from 1983 through 1998 and became Conductor Laureate in the 1998-99 season. Music Director of the Chautauqua Symphony from 1986-87 through 1988-89 he has also served as Principal Guest Conductor of Seattle's Northwest Chamber Orchestra.

Born in Detroit, his first teacher was his father Bernard, who was a music instructor in Detroit's public school system. His formal training took place at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and his teachers included such luminaries as Josef Gingold, Mischa Mischakoff, and Efrem Zimbalist. After leaving the Curtis Institute in 1950, Mr. Silverstein spent three seasons with the Houston Symphony; one with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and one season as concertmaster and assistant conductor of the Denver Symphony. He joined the Boston Symphony in the fall of 1955 and was a member of the violin section for seven seasons. He became concertmaster in 1962 and assistant conductor in 1971, holding both positions through the 1983-84 season. During his tenure at Boston, he conducted the orchestra on more than 100 occasions in the United States, Canada and abroad. He has also served as artistic advisor to the Hartford, Kansas City, Louisville, Baltimore, Toledo, Virginia, Florida, Alabama, Winnipeg, Oakland and Portland Symphony Orchestras and Interim Music Director of the Florida Philharmonic from January 2002 through May 2003.

As a conductor and soloist, Mr. Silverstein has appeared with hundreds of orchestras in the United States, as well as the Far East, Israel and Europe. As a participant in major international competitions, he was the Silver medallist in the 1959 Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels, and also won the Walter W. Naumburg Award in 1960. In recent seasons, he appeared in recital in Boston, New York, Cleveland, Detroit and Philadelphia. Future and recent-past engagements with Mr. Silverstein conducting and appearing as soloist include the Milwaukee Symphony, the Utah Symphony, the New Jersey Symphony, the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the San Antonio Symphony,

Symphony Silicon Valley, France's Orchestre Nationale de Lille, the Berlin Symphony, the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan as well as appearances at the Verbier Festival in Switzerland, the Aldeburgh Festival of England, the Teatro Comunale di Ferrara in Italy, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival and the Aspen Music Festival. He makes frequent visits to work with orchestras in China in cities that include Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou among others. In the fall of 2001, Mr. Silverstein toured major European cities as a member of a piano quartet that includes Pierre-Laurent Aimard, pianist; Tabea Zimmermann, violist, and Jean-Guihen Queyras, cellist.

Mr. Silverstein organized the Boston Symphony Chamber Players in 1964 and served as Music Director of that ensemble until coming to the Utah Symphony. He led eight international tours, as well as many United States tours. He has been a member of the faculties at Yale University, the New England Conservatory, Boston University and the Tanglewood Music Center. He also holds honorary degrees from Tufts University, Boston College, Rhode Island University and the New England Conservatory. He is a member of the string faculty of the Curtis Institute and an artist member of Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York.

Mr. Silverstein has recorded extensively for RCA, Deutsche Grammophon, CBS, Nonesuch, New World Records, Telarc and Pro Arte. His Telarc recording of Vivaldi's "*Four Seasons*" with the Boston Symphony Orchestra received a Grammy nomination. Other recent recordings, on which Mr. Silverstein is both conductor and featured soloist, are with the Utah Symphony on Pro Arte. They include an all-Mendelssohn album, an all-Beethoven album, an all-Barber, a Grieg/Schumann recording, and recordings featuring the Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak and Sibelius Violin Concerti. His most recent recording with the Utah Symphony features the pianist Michael Boriskin in repertoire by George Perle and Richard Danielpour. Other recent releases include the Bach *Brandenburg Concertos* with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center on Delos, and the Schmitt Quintet in G Major on Sony Classical. His recording of the Mozart Sonatas with pianist Derek Han was released in the spring of 1997 by BMG-Verdi.

**Carol Wincenc** is one of the most respected and acclaimed flutists performing today. She appears with orchestras worldwide and has premiered works written for her by numerous prominent composers. In the 2009-2010 season, she celebrates her 40th anniversary as a performer with the *Carol Wincenc Ruby Anniversary Series*, a three-concert series in New York taking place at Merkin Concert Hall, The Morgan Library & Museum, and The Juilliard School featuring the premieres of six newly-commissioned works by Joan Tower, Jake Heggie, Thea Musgrave, Shih-Hui Chen, Andrea Clearfield, and Jonathan Berger.

Ms. Wincenc's musicianship is matched by a deep commitment to expanding the flute repertoire. With the Detroit Symphony, she gave the world premiere of a flute concerto written for her by Pulitzer-Prize winner Christopher Rouse. Ms. Wincenc also gave the world premiere of Henryk Gorecki's *Concerto-Cantata* at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw and the U.S. premiere with the Chicago Symphony. She is in demand for her interpretation Lukas Foss's *Renaissance Concerto for Flute and Orchestra* – a work written for her, and has premiered concerti by Peter Schickele, Joan Tower, Paul Schoenfield and Tobias Picker, who composed *The Rain In the Trees*, a double concerto for her and soprano Barbara Hendricks inspired by the rainforest poems of W.S. Merwin.

Recent appearances have included performances of Christopher Rouse's Flute Concerto with the Rockford Symphony (IL), the Santa Rosa Symphony (CA), and ProMusica Columbus. In the past two seasons, she has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. In the summer of 2007, Ms. Wincenc received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Brevard Music Center and inaugurated the new Barrere Flute Studio at the Chautauqua Institution with a solo recital.

Ms. Wincenc has appeared with the St. Louis, Atlanta, and Seattle Symphonies; the Los Angeles and St. Paul Chamber Orchestras; and at the Mostly Mozart, Santa Fe, Spoleto, Caramoor, Marlboro, Sarasota, and Music @ Menlo festivals. Overseas, Ms. Wincenc has given acclaimed performances with the London Symphony Orchestra, the English Chamber Orchestra, and at the Aldeburgh, Budapest, Tivoli, and Frankfurt international

music festivals. Equally sought after as a chamber musician, Ms. Wincenc has collaborated with the Guarneri, Emerson, and Tokyo string quartets; performed with sopranos Jessye Norman and Elly Ameling; pianist Emanuel Ax; and cellist Yo-Yo Ma. Carol Wincenc is flutist with the New York Woodwind Quintet.

Carol Wincenc is a prolific recording artist; she was nominated for a Grammy Award for the 2005 Naxos recording of works by Yehudi Wyner with Richard Stoltzman and other renowned colleagues. Her recording of Christopher Rouse's Flute Concerto for Telarc with Christoph Eschenbach and the Houston Symphony won the highly coveted Diapason d'Or.

Ms. Wincenc is a professor of flute at both the Juilliard School of Music and Stony Brook University. She often serves as a judge for prestigious competitions, including, in 2009, the Walter W. Naumburg Chamber Music Competition and the Kobe International Flute Competition.

Lauren Keiser Music Publishers are releasing The Carol Wincenc 21st Century Series for Flute, which features the artist's favorite flute repertoire. The Carol Wincenc Signature Editions compilations are published by Carl Fischer.

Carol Wincenc is a native of Buffalo, New York. She began studies on the violin at four and the flute at age nine. As a teenager she studied with Italian virtuoso Severino Gazzelloni and then with Robert Willoughby at Oberlin. She also studied with legendary French flute master Marcel Moyse at the Marlboro Music Festival. Post-graduate studies were at the Manhattan School of Music and at Juilliard under Arthur Lora. Ms. Wincenc was First Prize Winner of the Walter W. Naumburg Solo Flute Competition in 1978.

## Performers Biographies – Ensemble

Violinist **Marjorie Bagley** made her Lincoln Center concerto debut in 1997 with the Little Orchestra Society after beginning her performing career at the age of nine in her home state of North Carolina with the Asheville, Winston-Salem, and North Carolina Symphonies. As first violinist and founding member of the Arcata String Quartet, Marjorie performed in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie, London's Wigmore Hall, and across Western Europe and the United States. Ms. Bagley can be heard on recordings for the VOX, New World and Summit labels, and a recording of music for violin and percussion on the Equilibrium label featuring a concerto by Lou Harrison. Currently Associate Professor of Violin at the University of North Carolina Greensboro and on faculty at the International Music Academy in Pilsen, Ms. Bagley has also taught at the Brevard Music Center, the Perlman Music Program, the Kinhaven Music School, and the Manhattan School of Music Preparatory Program. She has been performing with the Berkshire Bach Society since 1994.

**Roberta Cooper**, cellist, won the Artists International Competition and was sponsored in a critically acclaimed Carnegie Recital Hall debut. Ms. Cooper, longtime cellist with the Berkshire Bach Society, has performed as soloist and chamber musician internationally and throughout the U.S. In addition, she is the assistant principal cellist of the American Symphony Orchestra, and a member of the American Composers Orchestra and the Westchester Philharmonic. Ms. Cooper has performed in the Berlin Philharmonic, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the New York City Opera and the ballet orchestras of both the New York City Ballet and American Ballet Theatre. She is also a member of the Walsh-Drucker-Cooper Trio, which has performed extensively on major series in Washington, D.C., New Orleans and New York City. The trio made its European debut in Denmark last June. Later last summer she was guest cellist with the Emerson Quartet for their European performances of *Verklaerte Nacht* in Germany and Austria. Ms. Cooper was a scholarship student of Lorne Munroe and Harvey Shapiro at the Juilliard School, where she received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

**Allan Dean** is Professor of Trumpet (Adjunct) at the Yale University School of Music and is currently performing with Summit Brass, St. Louis Brass and the Yale Brass Trio. In the early music field he was a founding member of Calliope: A Renaissance Band and the New York Cornet and Sacbut Ensemble. He joined

the faculty of Indiana University in 1982. In 1989 he moved back to the Northeast to join the Yale faculty. At Yale, Dean coaches brass chamber music and directs the Yale Cornet and Sacbut Ensemble in addition to teaching trumpet.

Dean performs and teaches each summer at the Mendez Brass Institute and the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival in Norfolk, Connecticut. He is a frequent soloist with Keith Brion's New Sousa Band. Dean has also appeared at the Speleto and Casals Festivals, the Banff Centre (Canada), the Orford Arts Centre (Canada), Musiki Blekinge (Sweden), the Curitiba Music Festival (Brazil) and the Morella Festival (Spain). He can be heard playing both modern trumpet and early brass on over 80 recordings on most major labels including RCA, Columbia, Nonesuch, Summit and others. On early instruments he has recorded with Calliope, The New York Cornets and Sacbuts, The Waverly Consort, The Ensemble for Early Music and The Smithsonian Chamber Players.

In the Berkshires Dean performs regularly with Berkshire Bach and the Columbia Festival Orchestra. Dean lives in Monterey, Massachusetts with his wife, Julie Shapiro, an artist, and his daughter, Eloisa, 18. He is an avid tennis player and practices hatha yoga daily.

As a violist **Ronald Gorevic** has been a member of several well known string quartets, spanning over twenty years, and covering most of the quartet repertoire. He has toured throughout the U.S., Germany, Japan, Korea and Australia, and has also been broadcast on radio stations across the U.S., S.German and S.W. German radio, and the Australian Broadcast network.

As a violinist Mr.Gorevic has performed recitals in major U.S. cities. He has also performed in London, where he gave the British premieres of pieces by Donald Erb and Ned Rorem.

Mr.Gorevic is a founding member of the Prometheus Piano Quartet, with which he has recorded piano quartets of Saint-Saens and D'Indy for Centaur. He has also recorded for Koch International and Crystal records. His most recent recording, of Brahms clarinet quintet and trio in Brahms's own arrangement for viola instead of clarinet, was released in June of 2010 on the Centaur label. He is also currently on the faculty of Smith College, where he teaches both violin and viola. In addition to his teaching duties, he is in the process of arranging several well known violin concerti for the viola. His recent edition of the Mendelssohn violin concerto in E.Minor, in an arrangement for viola and piano is available through Shar Music. Ron is a long-time member of the Berkshire Bach Ensemble.

Percussionist **Ben Harms** has had a diverse career performing not only with such mainstream orchestras as the Metropolitan Opera (since 1968), but also with prominent modern composers like Steve Reich, Lou Harrison, John Cage, and Olivier Messiaen. He is a specialist in early music performance and performs with numerous period-instrument ensembles, including the Calliope Renaissance Band and the Boston Early Music Festival. He manufactures historical percussion instruments, including the instruments he is playing in tonight's concert. Locally, Mr. Harms performs not only with the Berkshire Bach Society, but also the Columbia Festival Orchestra and at the Meeting House in New Marlborough.

Oboist **Marsha Heller** has been recognized for her expressive playing and beautiful tone by the New York Times and Performing Arts Magazine. Since her debut as winner of the Concert Artists' Guild Competition in 1971 she has performed and recorded with Queens Symphony, Continuum, The Dance Theatre of Harlem, Martha Graham Dance Company, Berkshire Bach Society, Leonia Chamber Musicians, Bronx Arts Ensemble, and New York Pops.. She is a member of The Queen's Chamber Band, which specializes in Baroque music. Her recordings include "Music of Carlos Surinach" (chosen as one of the twelve best recordings of the year by the *New York Observer*), "Ritmo Jondo" and "Three is Company" with The Bronx Arts Ensemble, "JCF-the Buckeburg Bach" ,"Ragtime at the Ritz", and "Viva Italia" with the Queen's Chamber Band. Ms Heller is on the faculty at Montclair State University, Jersey City University, William Paterson University, and The Thurnauer School of Music. She is a longtime member of the Berkshire Bach Ensemble.

**Alexandra Knoll** was born in Zimbabwe and emigrated to South Africa at age ten. After graduating from high school, she worked professionally for two years in the Natal Philharmonic Orchestra. She is an alumna of the Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School. In New York she enjoys a busy freelance career playing with several orchestras including the American Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera and Orpheus. Outside of NYC she is the principal oboist of the Springfield Symphony and a member of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic. She is the oboist for the Broadway show “Mary Poppins”.

Cellist **Alistair Macrae** has appeared as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral principal throughout the United States and in Europe, Asia, South America, and the Middle East. His playing has been praised for its “rich sound and lyrical phrasing” (Palm Beach Daily News) and his performances have been featured in radio broadcasts across the United States. As a New York-based chamber musician, he has been heard at major New York venues such as Carnegie’s Zankel and Weill Halls, Barge Music, Merkin Hall, the 92nd St Y, and Miller Theatre at Columbia University. His recent seasons have included premiere performances of new works at Princeton, Yale, Columbia, and Harvard Universities. Mr. MacRae teaches cello at Princeton University and is on the faculty of the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina.

After completing the A.B. degree and earning a Certificate in Musical Performance at Princeton University, Mr. MacRae received his Master’s degree from Manhattan School of Music, where he was a cello student of David Geber and studied chamber music with Isidore Cohen.

**Irene Momchilova**, Bulgarian violist, is the recipient of numerous awards and distinctions including the MTNA chamber music award for the state of Florida and the Boca Pops Scholarship Competition. She has performed under many renowned conductors, Leonard Slatkin, Pierre Boulez, Gunther Schuller, Charles Dutoit, and Kurt Masur, among others. Ms. Momchilova received her Master of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music, and Bachelor degree Summa Cum Laude from the Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, Florida. She is the principal violist of the New England Symphonic Ensemble, assistant principal of the Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas, and a member of Symphony in C. Irena Momchilova regularly performs with the Mark Morris Dance Group, Berkshire Bach Ensemble, and in chamber music settings in New York City, where she currently resides.

**Neil Mueller** enjoys a varied career as a musician and educator. As a trumpeter, he has performed concerti with the Boston Pops, the Eastern Connecticut Symphony, the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony and the Boston University Symphony Orchestras as well as with the Berkshire Bach Ensemble. He has held principal positions with orchestras on the east coast and in the Midwest; as first trumpet with the Brass Ring quintet, he toured the U.S. and Italy and recorded a CD of Pulitzer Prize-winning compositions for Crystal Recordings. Since moving to Northeast Ohio in 2008, he has performed with Burning River Brass, the Canton Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Winds and the Hot Jazz Seven. Committed to education, Mueller was an associate professor at North Dakota State University and has taught students at Case Western Reserve, Cleveland State University, the University of New Hampshire, and Boston University’s Tanglewood Institute.

**Meg Owens** owns eight oboes of various shapes and sizes and enjoys playing all of them. In demand as a performer on historical as well as modern oboes, Ms. Owens appears regularly with some of North America’s major Baroque ensembles, including Tafelmusik, American Bach Soloists, Opera Lafayette, Rebel, Apollo’s Fire, National Cathedral Baroque Orchestra, Mercury Baroque, Modern Musick, Harmonious Blacksmith, Chatham Baroque, Washington Bach Consort, and the Berkshire Bach Society. She has recorded for the Naxos, Koch International Classics, and Electra labels. Ms. Owens recently earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the City University of New York, where she studied oboe with Ronald Roseman. Her scholarly pursuits center around the oboe band tradition at the chateaux of Louis XIV, leading to recreations of, and lectures about, the music of the Philidor family of wind players. She teaches at George Mason University, American University, and Episcopal High School.

**Liuh-Wen Ting**, viola, collaborates with artists from diverse genres and mediums, including the Manhattan String Quartet, Ensemble l'art pour l'art, the Cassatt String Quartet, AACM members, Bernard Greenhouse, Paula Robison, soprano Kathleen Battle, and the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society. As an advocate of the contemporary music, she has been a staff member of the Composers Conference at Wellesley College since 1993. She has premiered and recorded numerous solo and chamber music works, including music by AACM members George Lewis, Roscoe Mitchell, etc., as well as works by composers Frances White, George Walker, Elliott Sharp, among others. In addition, she has performed at international festivals such as *The Prague Spring Music Festival*, *The Warsaw Autumn Music Festival*, *Primavera en la Habana international electro-acoustic music festival* and *Etnafest*. Her performance of Morton Feldman's *The Viola in My Life* with the Janacek Symphony Orchestra was praised by the critic as "an extraordinary experience". In addition to advocating the contemporary music, she has appeared with the six-member Rumi ensemble, performing with the renowned Persian vocalist Shahram Nazeri for the past four years. Her solo and chamber music recordings include: *Centre Bridge-Electroacoustic Works* by Frances White (Mode); *Marilyn Ziffirin: Songs & Arias* (North/South); *Diverse Light/Meridian String Qt.*, *Brings: Music Da Camera* (Capstone); *George Walker-60th Anniversary Retrospective* (Albany Records); *Hemingway: Chamber Works* (Tzadik)

**Stephen Walt** is principal bassoonist with the Albany Symphony Orchestra, the Berkshire Symphony and the Berkshire Bach Ensemble. Mr. Walt has been on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst since 1999, where he holds the rank of Senior Lecturer, and is Director of Woodwind Chamber Music at Williams College. He has performed with orchestras, opera companies and chamber music ensembles throughout the eastern United States, including performances with the Borromeo, Lark, Muir, Amernet, Leontovych and Shanghai String Quartets. His primary teachers were Sherman Walt and Arthur Weisberg. He has recorded for CRI, Decca, Koch International, Gasparo, Nonesuch and Albany Records.

Mr. Walt plays on a Heckel bassoon made in 1958 for his father, Sherman Walt, the eminent former principal bassoonist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The instrument is nicknamed "The Brussels" as it was exhibited at the 1958 World's Fair in that city as an example of German artisanship.

**Peter Weitzner**, a graduate of the Juilliard School, has performed with Solisti New York, the Jupiter Symphony, EOS Ensemble, SONYC, Philharmonia Virtuosi, Stamford Symphony, Musicians Accord, and the New Jersey Symphony. As soloist, he has appeared with the Baltimore Symphony and performed the New York premiere of Sheila Silver's Chant for bass and piano. Mr. Weitzner has been a frequent participant at international music festivals including Mostly Mozart, OK Mozart, Cape May, Festival of the Hamptons, Bratislava Music Festival, and the Bruckner Festival in Linz, Austria.

An avid chamber musician, Mr. Weitzner is currently the curator and host of the BPL Chamber Players in residence at the Central branch (Grand Army Plaza) of the Brooklyn Public Library. He has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Orion Quartet, Ensō Quartet, Trio Solisti, New York Chamber Ensemble, Yale at Norfolk, Cooperstown Chamber Music Festival, New York Philomusica, Garden City Chamber Music Society, Sherman Chamber Ensemble and the Berkshire Bach Society.

British-Mexican violinist **Patrick Wood Uribe** studied as a postgraduate at the Royal Academy of Music in London, and holds a BA and MA with honors in Modern Languages from Oxford University. He began to play the violin in Mexico City as a pupil of Icilio Bredo, later studying at the Royal Academy and with Erick Friedman and Eugene Drucker in the United States. As a soloist and chamber musician, he has performed widely throughout the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as France, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Italy and Spain. His debut solo CD, 'Thomas Baltzar: The Complete Works for Unaccompanied Violin' was released last year to glowing critical acclaim from Gramophone Magazine, Strings Magazine and All Music Guide. In addition to his active career as instrumentalist, performing frequently with the Berkshire Bach Society, he is also the Roy D. Welch Graduate Fellow in Musicology at Princeton University.