



Chelsea
Music
Festival



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Chelsea Music Festival Announces 2018 Program: "BACH 333"

a "gem of a series" - The New York Times

"... impressive addition to New York's cultural ecosystem" - Time Out New York

"Music, art and good food are an integral part to this inventive new festival" - The New Yorker

New York City— From **June 8-16, 2018**, the Chelsea Music Festival returns to lower Manhattan in its ninth annual summer season with the theme "Bach 333: Master of Adoration, Variation, and Transformation," inspired by J. S. Bach's 333rd birthday. The Festival programming invites audiences to "hear, taste, see" as Festival musicians, chefs, and visual artists explore the profound output of Bach's work and play on the ideas of variation, transformation as well as the number three. Events over nine days will take place throughout the Chelsea neighborhood of NYC and feature classical, jazz, and contemporary music in evening concerts, lectures, walking tours, and family events.

To mark Bach's 333rd anniversary, the Festival will feature events such as "333 minutes of Bach" on the evening of June 9th and perform 333 Bach chorales throughout the entire Festival in evening concerts, during walking tours, and at afternoon events which will invite audience participation. All outdoor events will be free and open to the public at a variety of parks and Chelsea locations.

2018 ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

- **Barkada Quartet** | Ensemble-in-Residence
- **Aaron Jay Kernis** | Composer-in-Residence
- **Amy Pleasant** | Visual Artist-in-Residence
- **Eric Takahashi** | Culinary Artist-in-Residence

Music will include New York and World premieres, commissions and compositions by **Aaron Jay Kernis**, **Eric Nathan** and **Nicolas Namoradze**. The Festival is thrilled to welcome the **Verona Quartet**, **Barkada Quartet**, cellists **Matt Haimovitz** and **Angela Lee**, violinists **Nigel Armstrong** and **Nicholas DiEugenio**, pianists **Robert Fleitz**, **Andrea Lam**, **Melinda Lee Masur**, **Nicolas Namoradze**, oboist **Amanda Hardy**, percussionist **Rogerio Boccato**, and conductor **Ken-David Masur** among others. Three evenings of jazz conclude the Festival with original Bach arrangements by jazz pianists **Aaron Diehl** and **Adam Birnbaum**. The Festival Finale will feature jazz piano virtuoso **Helen Sung** and her collaboration with American poet **Dana Gioia** in a jazz song cycle called "Sung with Words."



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Our Visual Artist-in-Residence **Amy Pleasant** will have artwork on display at various Festival venues featuring selections of her drawings, paintings, and sculptures. A trio of guided walking tours will explore the theme of *Adoration* by visiting unique churches in Chelsea, the theme of *Variation* by visiting several art galleries, and the theme of *Transformation* by visiting historic sites in the Chelsea neighborhood. To complete the Festival motto of "Hear | Taste | See," Culinary Artist-in-Residence **Eric Takahashi** will create menus on the Festival theme through demonstrations, a sit-down dinner, and curated receptions throughout Festival week.

2018 CHELSEA MUSIC FESTIVAL OFFICIAL VENUE PARTNERS

Deutsches Haus at NYU | 42 Washington Mews (at University Place)
General Theological Seminary | 440 West 21st Street
St. Paul's German Evangelical Lutheran Church | 315 West 22nd Street
St. Peter's Evangelical Church | 346 W 20th Street

TICKETS

- Tickets will be available on May 1, 2018 at <http://www.chelseamusicfestival.org>
- For group sales and benefits, please contact info@chelseamusicfestival.org
- Students and Under 30 / Senior Discounts available. Must show Student / Senior ID at door
- For details on FREE CMF@Noon outdoor concerts and walking tours, see the Festival website & social media

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ABOUT THE CHELSEA MUSIC FESTIVAL

Hailed by *The New York Times* as a "gem of a series," the Chelsea Music Festival exists to celebrate great music by bringing together world-leading musicians and exciting newcomers to the international stage. Inspired by its Chelsea roots, the Festival seeks to reflect the creativity gathered in one of New York City's most dynamic neighborhoods by presenting site-specific programs that span musical genres ranging from classical to contemporary to jazz. With an emphasis on Festival-commissioned works, community outreach and education, the Festival also exists to create a gateway to music through the exploration and interplay of art forms - specifically the musical, visual and culinary - alongside an intimate and thrilling Festival experience shared by artists and concert-goers alike.

The Chelsea Music Festival Artistic Directors are **Melinda Lee Masur** and **Ken-David Masur**.

For press inquiries or to request images:

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