THE SEBASTIANS AT HOME

MARCH 25, 2021 AT 7:00PM

Pieces

Partite sopra il basso di Ciaccona for solo cello

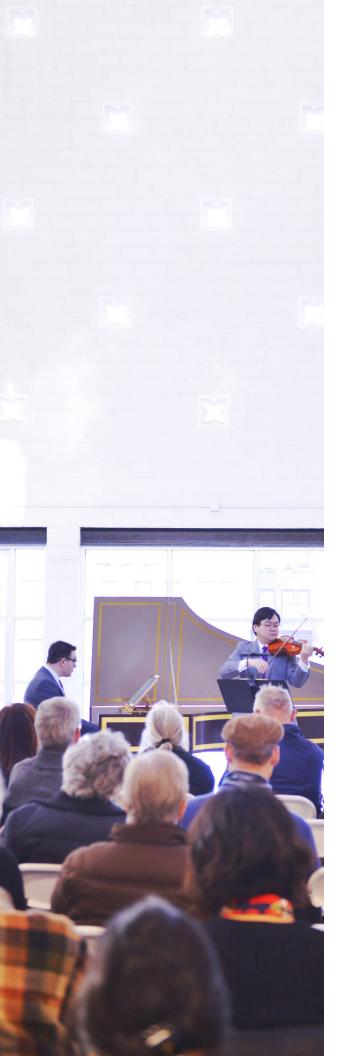
Giuseppe Colombi (1635–94)

Partita no. 4 in D major, BWV 828 (1728) for k Ouverture Allemande Courante Aria Sarabande Menuet Gigue	eyboard Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Sonata no. 3 in F major (1707) for violin and o [] Presto – Adagio Presto Aria Adagio	continuo Elisabeth Jacquet de La Guerre (1665–1729)
Sonata no. 4 in A major, "Grand Duo" op. posth. 162, D. 574 (1817) for violin and pian Allegro moderato Scherzo–Presto Andantino Allegro vivace	Franz Schubert o (1797–1828)
Sonata no. 1 in Bb major op. 1a (c. 1770) for violin and harpsichord Allegro Tempo di Mennetto	Joseph Bologne, Le Chevalier de Saint-Georges (1745–99)

French harpsichord by Allan Winkler, 2016, after François-Étienne Blanchet II, 1765, the last instrument by the Blanchet family before being taken over by Pascal Taskin. Quilled in Great Black-backed gull and crow feathers, with soundboard painting by Maria Bablyak.

German harpsichord by John Philips, 2020, inspired by 1737 and 1741 Christian Zell single-manual instruments, but following the scale and design principles of the 1722 double-manual by Johann Heinrich Gräbner Sr. Quilled in Canada goose feathers, with lid and case decoration by Janine Johnson.

Fortepiano by Rodney Regier, copy of a mid-1820 piano by Conrad Graf.



The Musicians



Praised as an "excellent" and "evocative" violinist (*The New York Times*), **Nicholas DiEugenio** leads a versatile performing life as a chamber musician, leader, and soloist in music ranging from early baroque to current commissions. Together with pianist Mimi Solomon, Nicholas has recorded the

albums Into the Silence (2017) and Unraveling Beethoven (2018) on the New Focus label. His award-winning recording of the complete Schumann violin sonatas with fortepiano is available on the Musica Omnia label. Regarded as an inspiring teacher, Nicholas is currently Assistant Professor of Violin at UNC Chapel Hill. Nicholas holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music (B.M. and M.M.) and the Yale School of Music (D.M.A. and A.D.). He is a core member of the Sebastians. Nicholas performs on a violin made by Karl Dennis in 2011, and also on a 1734 violin made by Dom Nicolo Amati. nicholasdieugenio.com



Keyboardist and conductor **Jeffrey Grossman** specializes in vital, engaging performances of music of the past, through processes that are intensely collaborative and historically informed. As the artistic director of the acclaimed baroque ensemble the Sebastians, in recent seasons

Jeffrey directed concerts including Bach's St. John and St. Matthew Passions and Handel's Messiah from the organ and harpsichord, in collaboration with TENET Vocal Artists. Jeffrey is a frequent performer with TENET, the Green Mountain Project, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, and numerous other ensembles across the country. He was recently musical director for the 2019 Boston Early Music Festival Young Artists Training Program, where he conducted Handel's Orlando from the harpsichord. For thirteen seasons, he toured portions of the rural United States with artists of the Piatigorsky Foundation, performing outreach concerts to underserved communities, most recently in Wyoming and southeast Alaska. Jeffrey can be heard on the Avie, Gothic, Naxos, Albany, Soundspells, Métier, and MSR Classics record labels. A native of Detroit, Michigan, he holds degrees from Harvard College, the Juilliard School, and Carnegie Mellon University. Jeffrey teaches performance practice at Yale University. jeffreygrossman.com



Award-winning violinist **Daniel S.** Lee enjoys a varied career as a soloist, leader, collaborator, and educator. Praised for his "ravishing vehemence" and "soulful performance" (*The New York Times*), he has appeared as a soloist and

leader with Early Music New York, the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, Quodlibet Ensemble, and the Yale Schola Cantorum, among others. He is the founding director and a core violinist of the critically-acclaimed period ensemble the Sebastians. As a piccolo violin specialist, he has performed as a soloist in Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 and Cantata 140, and has given the modern-day premiere of his own transcription of Johann Pfeiffer's concerto. He has studied at the Juilliard School (B.M.), Yale School of Music (M.M. and A.D.), and University of Connecticut (D.M.A.), and has given lectures and masterclasses at Connecticut College, Manhattan School of Music, Purchase College (SUNY), the University of Kansas, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He teaches performance practice and chamber music at the Yale School of Music. danielslee.com



Hailed for his "scampering virtuosity" (American Record Guide) and "superb" playing (The New York Times), cellist **Ezra Seltzer** is the principal cellist of the Trinity Baroque Orchestra, New York Baroque Incorporated, and Early Music New York and a founding

member of the Sebastians. He has frequently appeared as guest principal cellist of Musica Angelica and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, where he earned praise for his "delicate elegance and rambunctious spirit" (Twin Cities Pioneer Press) in performances of all six Brandenburg Concertos. Other performances with the SPCO include Handel's Messiah with Jonathan Cohen and J.S. Bach's St. Matthew Passion with Paul McCreesh. With Musica Angelica, he appeared in performances of Bach's St. John Passion in Walt Disney Concert Hall with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, and also performed in an international tour with soprano Emma Kirkby and countertenor Daniel Taylor. He attended Yale University, where he received his Bachelor of Arts in history and Master of Music in cello, and graduated from the inaugural class of Juilliard's historical performance program.



American pianist **Mimi Solomon** enjoys a multi-faceted career as a chamber musician, soloist, and teacher. She has performed throughout the United States, China, Japan and Europe, has appeared as soloist with orchestras including

Shanghai Symphony, Philharmonia Virtuosi, and Yale Symphony Orchestra, and has been featured on numerous radio and television broadcasts including the McGraw-Hill Young Artist's Showcase, France 3, France Inter, and National Public Radio.

An avid chamber musician, she regularly appears at music festivals on both sides of the Atlantic such as Santander, IMS Prussia Cove, Lockenhaus, Rencontres de Bel-Air, Ravinia, Taos, Norfolk, Yellow Barn, Charlottesville, La Loingtaine, and Aspen.

Mimi is also an enthusiastic and dedicated pedagogue: she is co-artistic director of MYCO Youth Chamber Orchestra, she spends part of every year coaching and performing chamber music at Kinhaven Festival in Vermont, and she has taught at Cornell University, East Carolina University, and Ithaca College. She is currently on the faculty of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mimi graduated *cum laude* in East Asian Studies from Yale, went on to receive a Master of Music from Juilliard, and then studied the fortepiano in Paris. Her main teachers were Peter Frankl and Robert McDonald, and she has also played regularly for Ferenc Rados and studied the fortepiano with Patrick Cohen. Her studies were generously supported by a Beebe Grant and two Woolley Scholarships from the Fondation des États-Unis. She currently lives in Chapel Hill with her husband, violinist Nicholas DiEugenio.

The Sebastians

The Sebastians are a dynamic and vital musical ensemble specializing in music of the baroque and classical eras. Lauded as "everywhere sharp-edged and engaging" (*The New York Times*), the Sebastians have also been praised for their "well-thought-out articulation and phrasing" (*Early Music Review*) and "elegant string playing... immaculate in tuning and balance" (*Early Music Today*). Their 2018 unconducted *St. Matthew Passion* with TENET Vocal Arts was called "shattering" and "a performance of uncommon naturalness and transparency."

The Sebastians recent seasons have included dozens of originally conceived programs, including collaborations with poets, choreographers, and actors; a musical installation in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine; programs dealing with musical "immigration" and nationalism; and major works of J.S. Bach led from the keyboard.

Winners of the Audience Prize at the 2012 Early Music America Baroque Performance Competition, the Sebastians were also finalists in the 2011 York International Early Music Competition and the 2011 Early Music America/Naxos Recording Competition. They have performed at Music Matters (LaGrua Center in Stonington, CT), Friends of Music at Pequot Library (Southport, CT), St. John's Episcopal Church (Tulsa, OK), Juilliard in Aiken (SC), in the Twelfth Night Festival and Concerts@One at Trinity Wall Street (New York, NY), Early Music in Columbus (Ohio), the Renaissance



and Baroque Society of Pittsburgh (PA), the Academy of Early Music (MI), and Houston Early Music (TX). The Sebastians are currently in residence at the Yale Collection of Musical Instruments.

The ensemble's recordings range from *Night Scenes from the Ospedale*, pairing Vivaldi concerti with newly composed interludes by Robert Honstein ("beautifullynuanced playing and thoughtful expressivity"); to *the Sebastians a 2: Virtuoso Music of the Holy Roman Empire*, exploring the rich baroque repertoire of music for violin and harpsichord written by composers from modern-day Germany, Austria, and the Czech Republic; and, most recently, *Folia*, which juxtaposes trio sonatas and vocal works by Corelli, Colista, Handel, and Vivaldi, featuring soprano Awet Andemicael.

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Support the Sebastians

The Sebastians are a 501(c)3 non-profit.

Producing these concerts is a labor of love that your tax-deductible gifts help make possible. With your support, we can bring these baroque treasures to life and share them with audiences around New York and across the country. If this music moves you, please consider making a donation— no amount is too small. You can give online at **sebastians.org/donate**, or by mailing a check made out to "Sebastian Chamber Players" to 163 Saint Nicholas Avenue, #2H, New York, NY 10026. **Thank you**.



The Sebastians would like to thank the generous donors who have supported our 2020–21 activities so far, as well as our volunteers and board of directors. We couldn't do it without you!

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*this list up-to-date as of Mar. 22, 2021. Please forgive any errors or omissions.

Margaret Spier



This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.



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