

Academy Virtuosi

Margaret Batjer, Director

December 7, 2021
Zipper Hall, 6 pm

Lyric for Strings (1990)

GEORGE WALKER
1922–2018

String Quartet No. 14 in D Minor, D. 810, “Death and the Maiden,” Arranged for String Orchestra (1824)

FRANZ SCHUBERT
1797–1828
Arr. by Gustav Mahler

Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo: Allegro molto
Presto

Margaret Batjer, Director, Academy Virtuosi

Margaret Batjer has served as concertmaster of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra since 1998. She is also renowned as a violin soloist, chamber musician and teacher, and has established herself as a versatile and respected artist worldwide.

Batjer has appeared as soloist with America's leading orchestras including the Chicago Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony Orchestra, and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Batjer has also performed with leading European ensembles such as the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the Prague Chamber Orchestra, the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra (of Ireland), Berlin Symphony Orchestra and the Hallé Orchestra. She has performed at many of the great halls across the continents such as La Scala, Carnegie Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, and Suntory Hall.



An esteemed chamber musician, Batjer was a longtime participant at the Marlboro Music Festival, and has often performed on tours with Musicians From Marlboro. Summers have found her performing in the La Jolla Summerfest, the Sarasota Music Festival, Vancouver Chamber Music Festival, Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival and abroad at the Naples, Cremona and the Salzburg Festival.

Ms. Batjer also serves as Director of Chamber Music for the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra establishing two series, Westside Connections and In Focus, over the last decade. Among Batjer's most noteworthy performances have been traversals of the complete Beethoven and Brahms Violin Sonata cycles in partnership with pianist Jeffrey Kahane, at Zipper Hall in Los Angeles. Batjer has collaborated with such notables as Chris Thile, Salvatore Accardo, Maurizio Pollini, Radu Lupu, Peter Serkin, Wu Han, and David Finckel. In 2020, she formed the Los Angeles Piano Trio with colleagues Fabio Bidini and Andrew Shulman.

Ms. Batjer has had an extensive recording career over the last several decades. Her most recent recording with the LA Chamber Orchestra includes the live premiere of the Pierre Jalbert Violin Concerto, and works by Bach, Part and Vasks released on the BIS label. She recorded the Bach Concerto for Two Violins with Salvatore Accardo and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe for the Philips label, and later a 2003 Deutsche Grammophon recording pairing Batjer and Hilary Hahn as soloists with Jeffrey Kahane conducting the LA Chamber Orchestra. She has also made numerous chamber music recordings on the EMI, Nuova Era and BMG labels.

Batjer is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Ivan Galamian and David Cerone. She joined the faculty of the USC, Thornton School of Music in 2005, and the Colburn Music Academy in 2014, where she teaches violin and directs the Academy Virtuosi.

Kyle Dickson, Conductor

American Conductor Kyle Dickson is quickly building a reputation as an innovative and compelling presence on the podium. He is Assistant Conductor of the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles and previously served as Music Director of Chicago's South Loop Symphony. In 2019, Dickson was selected to be Assistant Conductor of Spoleto Festival USA for the world premiere of Rhiannon Giddens and Michael Abels' opera, *Omar*. As a Conducting Fellow at the 2021 National Orchestral Institute and Festival's Conducting Academy at the University of Maryland, he learned from conductors Marin Alsop and James Ross and led the world premiere of *Just Dreams* by composer Tyler Taylor. For the past two seasons, Dickson has worked with Chicago Sinfonietta as a Project Inclusion Freeman Conducting Fellow under the mentorship of Music Director Mei-Ann Chen.



Orchestra Personnel

Violin

Zi Yang Low, Concertmaster *
Ashley Tsai, Concertmaster §
Anaïs Feller
Dániel Hodos
Daniel Kang
Kate Lee
Jeanne Rafaella Marquez
Tommu Su
Anna Suzuki
Avery Tracy
Muyang Wu
Cheng-Yueh Wu
Anna Yoo
Yirou Zhang
Blues Zhang
Grace Chunyi Zhou

Viola

Clara Bouch ◇
Seohyun Chloe Choi
Josh Felser §
Raphael Masters ◇
Haixin Wan *

Cello

Mira Kardan
Angeline Kiang *
Angela Rose Padula
Esther Jiahe Zhang §
Xinchen Jessica Zhang

Double Bass

Matin Boulos * §
Harrison Dearman ◇

Conductor

Kyle Dickson ◇

Key

Principal
* Schubert
§ Walker

Conservatory of Music student ◇

Music Academy Scholarships

Our donor community recognizes the excellence of Music Academy students through the Kohl Scholars, Greendale Scholars, and Thibaudet Scholars programs and through additional scholarship awards in recognition of merit and financial need. Special appreciation goes to the extraordinary scholarship support of Terri and Jerry Kohl, the Moe & Arlene Greendale Endowment Fund, the Colburn Foundation, Martine and Dan Drackett, Elizabeth Loucks Samson, Larry Rubenstein, and Marilyn Ziering.

Kohl Scholars are full scholarships for a select number of pianists and violinists in the Music Academy who are invited to the Music Academy at no cost. Becoming a Kohl Scholar is a celebrated achievement for a young artist, one that not only provides the financial assistance needed to succeed in the performing arts, but also indicates competitive success in the piano and violin auditions.

Greendale Scholars are students of exceptional talent who have been awarded a financial-aid scholarship from the Moe & Arlene Greendale Endowment Fund. This fund has been established to memorialize and honor the Greendales, who, through their gift, desire to perpetuate access to musical excellence, which at one time was generously extended to Mr. Greendale.

Thibaudet Scholars, named for renowned pianist and Colburn Artist-in-Residence Jean-Yves Thibaudet, are merit-based awards for any instrumental position in the Music Academy. These awards recognize the generosity of our donors and Mr. Thibaudet's continued artistic involvement and dedication.

If you would like to learn more about providing scholarship support to the Colburn Music Academy, contact advancement@colburnschool.edu.

Music Academy

Established in 2010, the Colburn School Music Academy is a pre-college program designed to prepare gifted young artists for conservatory study and careers as well-rounded professional musicians. The comprehensive curriculum includes private instruction, studio classes, chamber music, music theory and history, and ear training, as well as enrichment studies in career development and personal presentation skills.

Students enjoy a multitude of performance opportunities, both on campus and throughout Los Angeles, and participate in master classes. Alumni have gone on to study at top music schools, including The Juilliard School, the Curtis Institute of Music, and the Conservatory of Music at the Colburn School.



AN ORIGINAL MULTIMEDIA SERIES

Premiering in November and December
at colburnschool.edu/schulhoff

Presented by the Colburn School's Ziering-Conlon Initiative for Recovered Voices, this four-part online series featuring James Conlon delves into the life and music of Erwin Schulhoff (1894–1942).

Schulhoff's life and career are emblematic of the vitality not only of his own work, but that of two generations of composers whose lives, careers, and legacies were profoundly disrupted during—and following—the years 1933–1945 as a result of Nazi repression.

This series is free and available to the public.



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