Meet the Artist



After winning the Premier Grand Prix of the Rostropovich International Competition in Paris in 1986, he embarked on an international career, appearing with the world's most noted orchestras, in major recital and chamber music series and at prestigious festivals. He has appeared as a soloist with the Chicago, London, Montréal, Toronto, San Francisco, Baltimore, and National symphony orchestras; the English, Moscow, and Los Angeles chamber orchestras; Orchestre National de France; Orchestre de la Suisse Romande; the Netherlands and Rotterdam philharmonics; and the Cleveland and Philadelphia orchestras, among many others. He has collaborated with such celebrated conductors as Herbert Blomstedt, Andrew Davis, Jésus Lopez-Cobos, Kent Nagano, André Prévin, Mstislav Rostropovich, and Pinchas Zuckerman.

He made his debut at the Wigmore Hall in London at the age of fifteen, quickly followed by New York. Mr. Hoffman performs in major recital and chamber music series throughout the world, as well as at such prestigious festivals as Ravinia, Waterloo, Marlboro, Aspen, Bath, Evian, Vancouver, Verbier, Mostly Mozart, Prades, Santa Fe, Schleswig-Holstein, Stresa, Storioni, Hong Kong International, and Festival International de Colmar. Notable venues include Théâtre du Châtelet, Théâtre des Champs Elysées, the Royal Concertgebouw, and the Kennedy Center. He is a frequent guest performer with the Emerson, Tokyo, Borromeo, Brentano, and Ysaÿe string quartets; as well as the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Although he has great affection for the classical cello repertoire, Gary Hoffman does not neglect contemporary music, of which he is a committed champion. Numerous composers, among them Graciane Finzi, Renaud Gagneux, Joel Hoffman, Laurent Petitgirard and Dominique Lemaître, to name only a few, have dedicated their concertos to him and he performed the French premiere of Elliott Carter's Cello Concerto.

Hailing from Vancouver, Canada, at age twenty-two, Mr. Hoffman was the youngest faculty appointee in the history of Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where he served for eight years. He leads master classes around the world including appearances at the Ravinia Festival, Manchester International Cello Festival, Mozarteum University Salzburg, and the Kronberg Academy, where he is also closely involved with the institution's festival and Academy Master program.

Residing in Paris, Mr. Hoffman is an active recording artist with the BMG (RCA), Sony, EMI, and Le Chant du Monde labels. He performs on a 1662 Nicolo Amati, the "ex-Leonard Rose."

Mr. Hoffman joined the Curtis Institute of Music faculty in 2021. He also serves as master in residence for cello at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Brussels.



Gary Hoffman

"Hoffman's performance of the solo was breath-taking from the first notes. His cello's tone was full and rich across its compass and his control of intonation was astounding no matter how fast the passage. His refined application of dynamics and exquisite phrasing raised this performance far above just a showpiece of technical mastery. I have seldom heard anyone approach the extent to which Hoffman brought out the poetry of this masterpiece."

- Classical Voice of North Carolina

Stravinsky: Firebird Suite

Bloch: Schelomo: Rhapsodie Hébraïque for Cello and Orchestra

Schumann: Cello Concerto in A Minor, Op. 129

APRIL 25, 2022, 7:30 P.M. MYRTLE WOLDSON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

General Admission: \$17 · Students & Seniors: \$14 with ID · Gonzaga Students, Faculty, and Staff with ID are free

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center: 211 E DeSmet Ave; Spokane, WA 99258

Tickets can be purchased at: www.gonzaga.edu/mwpac or by calling the Box Office at 509-313-2787

All patrons are required to comply with Gonzaga's current policies regarding Covid restrictions. For More information call the Music Department at 509-313-6733 or visit: www.gonzaga.edu/gso





PROGRAM

FIREBIRD SUITE (1919)

Introduction -

L'OISEAU DE FEU ET SA DANSE -

VARIATION DE L'OISEAU DE FEU -

Ronde des Princesses

Danse infernale du roi Katstchei –

BERCEUSE -

FINAL

SCHELOMO; RHAPSODIE HÉBRAÏQUE FOR CELLO AND ORCHESTRA (1916) ERNEST BLOCH (1885 – 1977)

IGOR STRAVINSKY

(1882 - 1971)

Gary Hoffman, Cello Soloist

INTERMISSION

CELLO CONCERTO IN A MINOR, Op. 129

NICHT ZU SCHNELL -

Langsam -

SEHR LEBHAFT

ROBERT SCHUMANN (1810 - 1856)

GARY HOFFMAN, CELLO SOLOIST

ORCHESTRAROSTER

VIOLIN I

Sofia Garcia Gahan, concertmaster
Fiona Davis
Christina Kieu
Cindy Metz

Emmet Morris Krista Poffenroth Carrie Samsen Rachel Williams

Andres Yalan

VIOLIN II

Cole Merrill, principal
Laura Athearn
Nancy Compton
Emily Edmonds
Laura Freiermuth
Vincent Hsu
Sarah Maeda
Brooke Perez
Kaylynn Thieschaefer-Ritchie
Angelina Zhao

VIOLA

Mackenzie Harris, principal
Natalie Cominiello
Patricia Graterol Hernandez
Monica Manly
Kevin McGann
Gabe Meier

CELLO

Cathy Brown, principal
Matt Aranda
Ron Benfield
Kathleen Czoski
Brandon Huyck
Gwen Innes
Michele Jeglum
Michelle Johnson
Nataly Mendoza
Doug Nye
Nina Peterson
Madi Roening
Ray Womack

BASS

Sara Clark, principal
Ben Hargreaves
Paige Markham
Harmony Young

Karin Llyr, principal Dagny Albano Jordan Gravatt, piccolo

OBOE

Katie Hadley Morgan, principal Sarah Walters

ENGLISH HORN

Sheila McNally-Armstrong

CLARINET

Harrison Smith, principal Kris Curtis Sara Whelchel, bass clarinet

BASSOON

Javier Rodriguez, principal Erin Foster

- Horn

Brent Allen, co-principal Paul Manly, co-principal Steve Getman Mike Graef

TRUMPET

Kyle Jenkins, principal Ashton Blair Alex Ko

TROMBONE

Matt Peterson, principal Marc Houdayer John Weisgerber, bass trombone

Γ UBA

Steve Goertz

TIMPANI

Sam Hendrick

PERCUSSION

Jericho DeJesus Jackson Ferber Ethan Pelton

PIANO/CELESTE

Steve Radcliffe

HARP

Earecka Tregenza-Moody

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Spotlight on Seniors



Sam Hendricks is a senior from Sandpoint, Idaho. He is majoring in Sport Management and Music with a Performance concentration, and he is minoring in General Business and Jazz Performance. Sam has been playing percussion since he was in 6th grade and has played with the Gonzaga Wind Ensemble, Chamber Winds, Jazz ensembles and combos, and played in the drum line with the Gonzaga Bulldog Band in addition to playing with the Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra. Sam was selected as a winner of the 2021 Young Artists' Concerto and Aria Competition and performed a maripha concerto with the Gonzaga

selected as a winner of the 2021 Young Artists' Concerto and Aria Competition and performed a marimba concerto with the Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra in December 2021. After graduation, Sam plans to pursue a master's degree in Sport Management and work in a college athletic department, in addition to continuing to play music. I've been playing in orchestra for 3 years. Being a part of the orchestra has allowed me the opportunity to play a wide variety of music with other incredible musicians and soloists and to continue to improve my musicianship and technical skills while also getting to be a part of a wonderful community. I hope that I can continue to play in an ensemble in the future as it has been so rewarding to be able to collaborate with musicians in the creation of music and to be able to perform that music, and my experiences here will only help me as I continue to perform. continue to perform.



Kyle Jenkins a senior music education major from Sammamish, Washington. He has been playing the trumpet for about 12 years, and he also played trumpet in the Gonzaga Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble as well. He loves getting to be involved with music at Gonzaga as it is such a fun and supportive community. He's thankful for my friends, teachers, professors, and family who have supported me in my musical journey here! I have

played in the GSO for 2 years. Getting to play in orchestra has been an incredibly rewarding experience. I've gotten to play some amazing repertoire that I had never really encountered before I got to Gonzaga. I've gotten to meet so many wonderful students and community members in addition to working with some amazingly talented soloists for each concert. Being in orchestra has been one of the highlights of my college career and I'm very grateful for the experiences I've had. I hope that my experiences in orchestra will help prepare me as a future music educator. Being in orchestra has made me a better musician and has helped me to think about how l want to run my future classroom. It also reminds me that continuing to play trumpet is always going to be important to me as a source of joy and stress relief.



Kaylynn Thieschafer-Ritchie has played in the Gonzaga Symphony since her freshman year in 2018. It has been amazing to have both a community at Gonzaga that I can always come back to, as well as amazing people to learn from who have played for many more years than I have. Learning from the community has been very rewarding and has shown me amazing role models to look up to. The orchestra has taught me the importance of working together as a team.

You're only as strong as your weakest link, but as long as you build each other up, and put in the work for both yourself and others, a team can do anything they set their mind too.



Sarah Walters is a senior nursing major from Everett Washington. She has always been surrounded by music, whether listening to it or playing it, and it has become a large part of her life that she never hopes to lose. She began with playing the piano before picking up an oboe at the age of 12, because her mom told her that it was a pretty instrument. From there she grew a love for orchestral music and decided to continue playing in college with the Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra. She has played in the Gonzaga Symphony since she was a freshman. She

had to take a small break with the pandemic, but she is so happy that to finish her senior year with one more concert! Orchestra has been my safe space since starting college and has always allowed me an escape from whatever might be going on. I know that I can always come to rehearsal and forget about what might be happening in my other classes, and just focus on making beautiful music. Orchestra has grown my knowledge and passion for orchestral music, and it is a love that I will carry for the rest of my life. If being in orchestra for four years, and playing oboe for many more, has taught me anything, it is that music is a powerful means of communication where words often fail. Music has always been a way for me to communicate my thoughts and feelings when I do not know how to communicate them with words. I have left every rehearsal, my past four years, lighter than when I walked in, because the music and community that we share has lifted whatever worries I might have had that day. As a future nurse, communication is a large part of my job, and knowing that I will always have music to fall back upon as a communication skill will only help me. I hope that I can carry the healing power of music not only for myself, but also for my patients, and orchestra has taught me that it is my most useful and powerful communication skill.



Carrie Samsen has been performing with the Gonzaga Symphony for four and a half years. Although I am not a music major or minor, music performance has always been a part of my life, and I am grateful for having been able to continue while I finished school in the GU nursing program. As concertmaster I gained a significant amount of leadership experience that I will use in and outside of music. I am also fortunate to have met and worked with soloists like violinist Midori Goto and cellist Lynn Harrell. I will be continuing

to perform with the orchestra while I work at Sacred Heart hospital in Spokane. As a big musical theater fan, I also aspire to perform with the local theater companies as a pit orchestra violinist.



Sara Whelchel is from Diamond, Washington and is studying Music and Business Administration concentration in Law and Public Policy. She has played in the wind and jazz ensembles throughout the last four years, but this is her first year in the Gonzaga Symphony! Playing with this group has opened up wonderful opportunities for me to work with community members and be introduced to new repertoire. As I am going into Public Administration after graduation,

I am hopeful that my experience in the orchestra will encourage me to continue making music in my personal life and in effort to form community wherever I am.