COLORADO COLLEGE

SMF Summer Music festival

presents

The Art of Perseverance: Sounds of Hope and Restoration

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Apríl 5, 2023 7:30 pm Packard Hall

THE ART OF PERSEVERANCE

Most of the students at CC today were born either a year before or in three years following the attack on the Twin Towers in 2001. They have spent all of their conscious lives in a time of global war. Those who grew up in the U.S. have lived with increasing political polarization and racial violence, as well as mass shootings on an almost daily basis. They witness the wildfires, floods, and hurricanes that are the effects of climate change. And if that weren't enough, they have lived through three years of a pandemic. That's a lot to bear.

In the U.S., we live in a culture that tends to see the arts as "extra," as something that is nice to include if there's a surplus of money or time. In most public schools, art and music are "electives," in contrast to the necessary subjects like science and math. But the program you will hear today conveys a different message: The arts are not incidental. They are instrumental in navigating human difficulty. Art works a transformative magic on creators, performers, and audience alike. It's hard to say exactly how it happens—part of it is certainly that art connects us with something larger than ourselves—but it is real. Student musicians Lincoln Grench and Forrest Tucker observe, "When we practice, it puts us in a way better mood, even if we don't play particularly well. We can come in having not the best day, and then playing—being able to play piano together—lifts the spirits."

The term "perseverance" implies an act of will. Unlike "survival" or even "resilience," perseverance suggests intention and choice. To persevere means to *decide* to keep trying, to assert your agency, your hope, in the face of whatever circumstances you encounter. The poetry and music featured in this program embody, in various ways, the spirit of perseverance. Selected and read by CC students, the poems speak about claiming freedom despite racial oppression; about asserting the presence of women, both quietly and loudly; about making progress toward a seemingly impossible goal; about identifying with green in a landscape that also contains darkness; about finding power in the words one possesses. And the music, performed by CC student musicians and Summer Music Festival artists?—let its magic transform you.

Jane Hilberry Professor of Creativity & Innovation



This concert is presented with support from the Colorado College Wellness Resource Center and the Department of Music. We want to thank Creativity & Innovation at CC for their generous time and energy.

Program

from Piano Quartet in A Major, Op. 26 Poco Adagio	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Mark Fewer, <i>violin</i> ; Phillip Ying, <i>viola</i> ; David Ying, <i>cello</i> ; Susan Grace, <i>piano</i>	
Poetry: "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou, read by Iyanla Ayite '25 Danzón (Memories) for piano trio	Paquito D'Rivera (b. 1948)
Mark Fewer, violin; David Ying, cello; Susan Grace, piano	
Poetry: "A World of Dew" and "Snail" by Kobayashi Issa, "Blossoms at Dawn" by Matsuo Bashō, read by Keiko Ito '26	
be still and know	Carlos Simon (b. 1986)
Lilly Gray '26, <i>violin</i> ; Jacob Lynn-Palevsky '23, <i>cello</i> ; Forrest Tucker '24, <i>piano</i>	
Poetry: "Sorrow Is Not My Name" by Ross Gay, read by Mary Andrews '23	
"Everything Else" from Next to Normal	Brian Yorkey (b. 1970) Tom Kitt (b. 1974)
Willo Abel Burglechner '23, baritone; Daniel Brink, piano	
Concertino for two pianos	Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)
Forrest Tucker '24, Lincoln Grench '23, pianos	
Poetry: "Mushrooms" by Sylvia Plath, read by Anna Heimel '23	
Songs from Camille Claudel: Into the Fire Shakuntala Gossips	Jake Heggie (b. 1961)
Jennifer DeDominici, <i>mezzo-soprano</i> Mark Fewer, <i>violin</i> ; Jeri Jorgensen, <i>violin</i> ; Phillip Ying, <i>viola</i> ; David Ying, <i>cello</i>	
Poetry: "Caged Bird" by Maya Angelou, read by Janeiya Porter '26	
from Quartet for the End of Time V. Louange à l'Éternité de Jésus	Oliver Messiaen (1908-1992)
David Ying, <i>cello</i> ; Susan Grace, <i>piano</i>	
Poetry: "We used our words we used what words we had" by Franny Choi, read by Henry Freedman '23	
from Piano Quartet in G minor, Op. 25 Rondo alla Zingarese	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Mark Fewer, <i>violin</i> ; Phillip Ying, <i>viola</i> ; David Ying, <i>cello</i> ; Susan Grace, <i>piano</i>	

The audience is invited to join the performers for a Talk Back immediately following the concert.

Poetry

Still I Rise by Maya Angelou

You may write me down in history With your bitter, twisted lies You may trod me in the very dirt But still, like dust, I'll rise. Does my sassiness upset you? Why are you beset with gloom? 'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells Pumping in my living room. Just like moons and like suns, With the certainty of tides, Just like hopes springing high, Still I'll rise. Did you want to see me broken?

Bowed head and lowered eyes? Shoulders falling down like teardrops, Weakened by my soulful cries? Does my haughtiness offend you? Don't you take it awful hard 'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines Diggin' in my own backyard. You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your words, You may kill me with your hatefulness,

But still, like air, I'll rise. Does my sexiness upset you? Does it come as a surprise That I dance like I've got diamonds At the meeting of my thighs? Out of the huts of history's shame I rise

Up from a past that's rooted in pain I rise

I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide, Welling and swelling I bear in the tide. Leaving behind nights of terror and

fear I rise

Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear

I rise

- Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
- I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
- I rise
- I rise
- I rise.

"In 'Still I Rise,' I recognize myself, my sisters, brothers, fathers, mothers, and peers existing fully despite threatening reverberations of history. I recognize that if it weren't for perseverance, which really was and is the most life- affirming option, if it weren't for the will to rise, I could not be here. What a gift that kind of love is, a gift that I hope to embody now, and whose transmission to the next generations I hope to participate in."

Iyanla Ayite

A World of Dew by Kobayashi Issa

露の世は (Tsuyu no yo wa) 露の世ながら (Tsuyu no yo nagara) さりながら (Sari nagara)

A world of dew, And within every dewdrop A world of struggle.

Snail

by Kobayashi Issa

蝸牛 (Katatsumuri) そろそろ登れ (Sorosoro nobore) 富士の山 (Fuji no yama)

Snail, ever so slowly climb, Mt. Fuji.

Blossoms at Dawn by Matsuo Bashō

猶みたし (Nao mitashi) 花に明行 (Hana ni ake yuku) 神の顔 (Kami no kao)

How I long to see among blossoms at dawn, the face of God.

"Being new to poetry, I wanted to push myself outside of my comfort zone and thought this would be a cool chance to do so. Prof. Jane Hilberry recommended we recite our poems every day leading up to the concert, so it really gets 'into our bodies.' I'm practicing three beautiful haiku poems, both in Japanese and in English."

Keiko Ito

Sorrow Is Not My Name by Ross Gay

-after Gwendolyn Brooks

No matter the pull toward brink. No

matter the florid, deep sleep awaits. There is a time for everything. Look, just this morning a vulture nodded his red, grizzled head at me, and I looked at him, admiring the sickle of his beak. Then the wind kicked up, and, after arranging that good suit of feathers he up and took off. Just like that. And to boot, there are, on this planet alone, something like two million naturally occurring sweet things, some with names so generous as to kick the steel from my knees: agave, persimmon, stick ball, the purple okra I bought for two bucks at the market. Think of that. The long night, the skeleton in the mirror, the man behind me on the bus taking notes, yeah, yeah. But look; my niece is running through a field calling my name. My neighbor sings like an angel and at the end of my block is a basketball court. I remember. My color's green. I'm spring. -for Walter Aikens "When I read 'Sorrow Is Not My Name' I feel uplifted, as if Ross Gay's words of delight are physically racing through me and clearing out wariness and distress. This poem is specifically asking the listener or reader to reflect on small moments of joy, like the ones Gay depicts in this poem, that are in some way special or transformative towards joy. To me, finding and holding on to small moments of peace

might need them, is a beautiful form of perseverance that we can collectively practice as human beings."

or charm like these, being present in

them, and recalling them when you

Mary Andrews

Mushrooms

by Sylvia Plath

Overnight, very Whitely, discreetly, Very quietly

Our toes, our noses Take hold on the loam, Acquire the air.

Nobody sees us, Stops us, betrays us; The small grains make room.

Soft fists insist on Heaving the needles, The leafy bedding,

Even the paving. Our hammers, our rams, Earless and eyeless,

Perfectly voiceless, Widen the crannies, Shoulder through holes.

We Diet on water, On crumbs of shadow, Bland-mannered, asking

Little or nothing. So many of us! So many of us!

We are shelves, we are Tables, we are meek, We are edible,

Nudgers and shovers In spite of ourselves. Our kind multiplies:

We shall by morning Inherit the earth. Our foot's in the door.

"As a person who sings and enjoys creative writing, I love how this concert combines words and music intentionally. I am reading 'Mushrooms' by Sylvia Plath, and love how this poem uses the growth of mushrooms as a metaphor for perseverance."

Anna Heimel

Caged Bird by Maya Angelou

A free bird leaps on the back of the wind and floats downstream till the current ends and dips his wing in the orange sun rays and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks down his narrow cage can seldom see through his bars of rage his wings are clipped and his feet are tied so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings with a fearful trill of things unknown but longed for still and his tune is heard on the distant hill for the caged bird sings of freedom.

The free bird thinks of another breeze and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn and he names the sky his own.

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream his wings are clipped and his feet are tied so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings with a fearful trill of things unknown but longed for still and his tune is heard on the distant hill for the caged bird sings of freedom.

"When I first heard the theme of the concert, perseverance, I knew I wanted to perform a poem that highlights my cultural history because I can't think about perseverance without thinking about the history of Black people. It would be an honor to channel my ancestors and bring their feelings to light on stage. 'Caged Bird' by Maya Angelou is a majestic, descriptive poem that fits beautifully with the theme."

Janeiya Porter

We used our words we used what words we had by Franny Choi

we used our words we used what words we had to weld, what words we had we wielded, kneeled, we knelt. & wept we wrung the wet the sweat we wracked our lips we rang for words to ward off sleep to warn to want ourselves. to want the earth we mouthed it wound our vowels until it fit, in fits the earth we mounted roused & rocked we harped we yawned & tried to vawp & tried to fix, affixed, we facted, felt. we fattened fanfared anthemed hammered, felt the words' worth stagnate, snap in half in heat the wane the melt what words we'd hoarded halved & holey, porous. meanwhile tide still tide. & we: still washed for sounds to mark. & marked.

"As a poet with a stutter, poetry and words have always been very important to me. 'We Used Our Words We Used What Words We Had' by Franny Choi speaks to me on so many levels because of my occasionally paradoxical existence. This poem immediately came to mind to use in this concert because of how it speaks to my personal vocal experiences with perseverance."

Henry Freedman

Performers

IYANLA AYITE '25, from Aurora, CO, is majoring in music.

MARY ANDREWS '23, from Florence MA, is majoring in environmental studies with a minor in French language.

WILLO ABEL BURGLECHNER '23, from Minneapolis, MN, is majoring in sociology with a minor in theatre.

KIARA BUTTS '23, from Lexington, KY, is majoring in psychology. She is the alternate student vocalist for this concert.

JENNIFER DEDOMINICI is a true crossover artist, having performed major roles in opera, musical theater, concerts, and even film. She has been seen on the stages of many venues here in Colorado Springs: Francesca in *Bridges of Madison County* (Henry Award Winner for Outstanding Actress in a Musical), Dorabella in Mozart's *Cosi fan tutte*, Mary Poppins in *Mary Poppins*, Judy in 9 to 5, Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*, Charity in *Barnum*, Grace in *Annie*, Maria in *The Sound of Music*, Petra in *A Little Night Music*, Carmen in *Carmen*, Angharad in *How Green Was My Valley*, Hänsel in the opera *Hänsel und Gretel*, and Rosina in *II barbiere di Siviglia*. Elsewhere in the musical theater world, she has performed the iconic roles of Aldonza in *Man of La Mancha*, Carrie Pipperidge in *Carousel*, Guenevere in *Camleot*, Nellie Forbush in *South Pacific*, and Claudia in *Nine*. In opera she has been in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Gounod's *Faust*, *Nixon in China* by John Adams, among others. She worked with Tim Rice on his show for the Seabourn Cruise Line and joined a star-studded cast in a concert version of *My Fair Lady* featuring Emmy-award-winning Peter Scolari and Broadway artist Elena Shaddow, which played with the Milwaukee Symphony and North Carolina Symphony. She is a first-place winner of the Denver Lyric Opera Guild Auditions, a NATS Singer of the Year, and a four-time Regional Finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Violinist **MARK FEWER** leads a multi-disciplined life in music. Violin soloist, chamber musician, orchestral leader, artistic director, conductor, arranger, teacher, jazz violinist, recording artist and occasional radio host, he has performed worldwide to great critical acclaim. Described as "intrepid" (*The Globe and Mail*), "genre-bending" (*National Post*), "profound" (*The WholeNote*), and "freaky good" (*The Gazette*), he has performed around the world in halls such as Carnegie, Wigmore and Salle Pleyel, and is equally at home in recital venues such as Bartok House (Budapest) to Le Poisson Rouge (NYC) to The Forum (Taipei). As a soloist, he has performed with the symphonies of Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Quebec, San Francisco and Melbourne, as well as with groups such as the Fodens-Richardson Brass Band (UK), the Zapp Quartet (Amsterdam), the McGill Percussion Ensemble, and as a featured guest with Stevie Wonder and his band. As a chamber musician he was a founding member of the Duke Piano Trio, has been a member of the Smithsonian Chamber Players for over 15 years, and was violinist with the St. Lawrence String Quartet at Stanford University, where he was artist-in-residence. Mr. Fewer has been Artistic Director of Stratford Summer Music. He is currently Associate Professor of Violin and Faculty of Music, University of Toronto.

HENRY FREEDMAN '23, from Saxtons River, VT, is majoring in English: creative writing.

Grammy nominated pianist and Steinway Artist **SUSAN GRACE** has performed solo and chamber recitals, and has appeared as soloist with orchestras in the United States, Europe, the former Soviet Union, Korea, India and China. She has also performed in the Aspekte Festival in Salzburg, St Paul Chamber Orchestra's new-music series Engine 408, Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., the Grand Teton Festival, the Cape Cod Music Festival, Festival Mozaic, Concordia Chamber Players, Music at Oxford, and the Helmsley Festival in England. She is a member of Quattro Mani, an internationally acclaimed two-piano ensemble with NY pianist Steven Beck. Recent performances include CUNY Graduate Center, Bargemusic, National Sawdust, Subculture and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and Steinway Hall in NY, La Labortoire Cambridge, Curtis Institute in Philadelphia and

the Alabama and Austin Symphonies. Grace has recorded for Bridge Records, the Belgium National Radio, WFMT in Chicago, the Society of Composers, Wilson Audio, Klavier International and Klavier Music Productions. Her recording on the Bridge label of Stefan Wolpe's violin and piano music was listed in the London Sunday Times as one of the top ten Contemporary recordings of 2015 and was also included on the Fanfare "Critics Want List 2016". Bridge Records recently released 4 new CDs by Quattro Mani featuring American and European composers; Lounge Lizards and Re-Structures in 2018 as well as Stefan Wolpe's music for two pianos and the Poul Ruders Edition, Volume 15 released in 2019, all to critical acclaim. Grace is associate chair, artist-in-residence and senior lecturer in music at Colorado College. She is also music director of the renowned Colorado College Summer Music Festival, now entering its 39th season. Grace was awarded the 2020 Gresham Riley Award, the Alumni Association's highest honor for service to Colorado College, and the 2023 Jane Cauvel Cultivating Collaboration and Community Presidential Leadership Award. She was awarded the Christine S. Johnson Professorship of Music from 2014-16. In June 2014, Mayor Steve Bach and the city of Colorado Springs presented Ms. Grace with the Spirit of the Springs award for her work with the Colorado College Summer Music Festival. Grace was nominated for a Grammy in the Best Small Ensemble Performance category.

LILLIE GRAY '26, from New Canaan, CT, is a first-year student and has not yet declared a major and is pursuing a minor in Italian.

LINCOLN GRENCH '23, from St. Louis, MO, is majoring in music.

ANNA HEIMEL '23, from Denver, CO, is an English major, concentrating in literature.

KEIKO ITO '26, from Decatur, GA, is a first-year student and has not yet declared a major.

Violinist, educator, and conductor **JERI JORGENSEN** is fascinated with finding musical freedom within structure. A seasoned performer of music from all eras, she is especially drawn to creating a stimulating audience experience through the nuances, subtleties and constraints of the classical style period, and on the same program contrasting Beethoven, Mozart or Schubert with works from the early 20th century that break past traditional harmonies and form. Jeri was founding first violinist of the DaVinci Quartet, prizewinners in the Shostakovich International String Quartet Competition and finalists in the Naumburg Chamber Music Competition. Her recordings with the quartet appear on the Naxos label. A member of the performance faculty of Colorado College and co-director of the CC Chamber Orchestra, Jeri has also been a faculty member at the Lamont School of Music of the University of Denver, and visiting assistant professor at SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music. She holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the Juilliard School.

JACOB LYNN-PALEVSKY '23, from Wynnewood, PA, is majoring in organismal biology and ecology with a minor in music.

JANEIYA PORTER '26, from Richton Park, IL, is a first-year student and has not yet declared a major.

FORREST TUCKER '24, from Fort Collins, CO, is majoring in music while pursuing minors in both German and environmental studies.

DAVID YING is well known to concert audiences as the cellist of the Grammy Award-winning Ying Quartet. With the quartet, he has performed worldwide in celebrated music venues from Carnegie Hall to the Sydney Opera House. Ying first pursued chamber music avidly as a teenaged student at the Eastman School of Music with his piano trio, which was awarded first prize at the Coleman Chamber Music Competition. Later, he would also win the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, this time with the Ying Quartet. Ying is also highly regarded as an individual artist, having won prizes in the Naumburg Cello Competition and in the Washington International Competition. Ying serves on the cello and chamber music faculty at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he and Elinor reside with their two children.

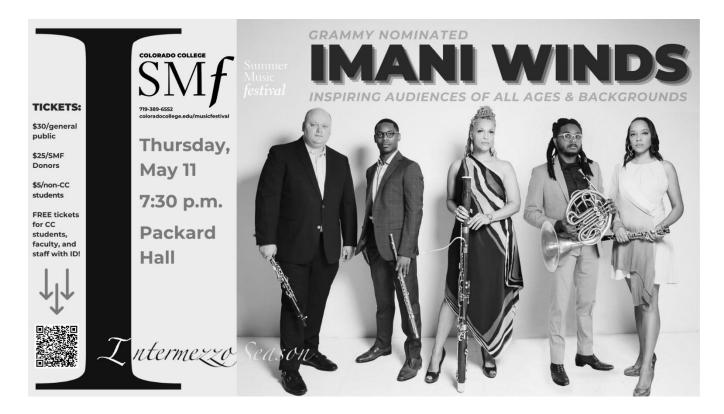
PHILLIP YING, as violist of the Ying Quartet, has performed across the United States, Europe and Asia. He has won the Naumburg Award for Chamber Music, has won a Grammy for a collaborative

recording with the Turtle Island String Quartet, and has been nominated three additional times, most recently for a collaborative album with pianist Billy Childs. Ying is an associate professor of chamber music and viola at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. From 2001-2008, he was named, with the Ying Quartet, Blodgett Ensemble in Residence at Harvard University. Additionally, he served a six-year term as president of Chamber Music America, a national service organization for chamber music ensembles, presenters, and artist managers, and has been published by Chamber Music magazine.

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The 2023 Colorado College Summer Music Festival will host over 20 events between June 4 and 23. Find out more on our website, www.coloradocollege.edu/musicfestival, or call the office at (719) 389-6552. Tickets for our June concerts are available to donors now, and to the public beginning May 1.