

# *2021 Fall Concert Series*

## The Browning-Krug Duo Debut

*Grace Browning, harp  
Benjamin Krug, cello*

November 10, 2021

12:10PM



LIVE *from*  
HOCHSTEIN

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## The Browning-Krug Duo

Recently engaged RPO musicians Grace Browning (harp) and Benjamin Krug (cello) return to the beautiful Hochstein stage for their debut performance together on the radio waves. When the pandemic began, Browning and Krug began making music in their living room, playing concerts over Zoom, in backyards, and at vaccination centers. Missing the sounds of their beloved orchestra, they began transcribing everything they could get their hands on - from opera scores to Billy Joel and everything in between - and discovered a new world of musical possibilities.



### Grace Browning, Harp

Grace Browning's appearance today marks her third performance this year on Live from Hochstein. Grace has quickly established herself as a versatile ensemble harpist, dynamic soloist, and community-building teaching artist. Equally at home with both symphonic and operatic worlds, Grace won the position for Principal Harpist of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra in 2017 and performs with the Santa Fe Opera every summer since her appointment in 2015. She can be heard on both ensemble's GRAMMY award-winning albums: *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* and *American Rapture*.

Her love for opera began in 2014 when Grace won her first position as Principal Harpist of The Dallas Opera. In 2018, she made her debut with the Metropolitan Opera, performing Puccini's *Tosca*, Bizet's *Carmen*, and Wagner's *Siegfried*. During her time in Texas, she regularly performed with the Dallas Symphony and the Philadelphia Orchestra, and was invited to perform as Guest Principal during the Houston Symphony's 2018 European Tour. She has participated in music festivals around the globe, including the Tanglewood Music Center, Spoleto Festival USA, Aspen Music Festival, National Repertory Orchestra, and Pacific Music Festival in Japan.

A natural and charismatic presence on stage, Grace has performed as a soloist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Pacific Symphony, New World Symphony, and the National Repertory Orchestra. In 2015, she won the Young Texas Artist's First Prize for Winds, Brass, Percussion & Harp, as well as the Aspen Music Festival Harp Concerto Competition. After completing her three-year fellowship at the New World Symphony in 2014, Grace was invited to return as both soloist and coach and had the honor to perform as a featured alumna for the Michael Tilson Thomas 70th Birthday Gala. As a chamber musician, she collaborates regularly with the Society for Chamber Music in Rochester, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, and Chatter ABQ, and curates a unique summer series at San Miguel Chapel (NM): the oldest known chapel in the United States.

Originally from Mountain Lakes, New Jersey, Grace received her Master of Music degree from the Juilliard School in 2011, following two years at the University of Michigan (B.M. 2009) and two years at the Eastman School of Music. In her spare time, Grace enjoys practicing yoga, jamming with RPO friends and fiancé Benjamin, and spoiling their fur babies, Annie and Pippa.



### Benjamin Krug, Cello

Praised for his "directness of expression" (Rochester City Newspaper), Benjamin Krug is a tenured cellist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the newly-appointed Suzuki cello instructor at The Hochstein School. In recent summers, he has performed with the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra, the Chautauqua Festival Orchestra, and the Finger Lakes Opera. As a chamber musician, Benjamin is a devoted member of the Salaff Quartet (with RPO musicians Thomas Rodgers, Molly McDonald and Aika Ito) performing free concerts throughout the Rochester community and serving as Outreach Ambassadors for the Society For Chamber Music in Rochester from 2017-2019. Most recently, Benjamin can be heard on WXXI 91.5 Classical for his performances with SCMR and with organist Peter DuBois on WXXI's HomeStage. Prior to his position in the RPO, Benjamin was a member of both the Akron and Canton Symphonies and participated in summer festivals including the National Orchestral Institute, Aspen Music Festival, and Tanglewood Music Festival.

Beyond performing, Benjamin is a dedicated pedagogue. Having studied the method since age 4 and recently completed Suzuki teacher training, Benjamin teaches individual and group lessons while working with Hochstein to develop their growing Suzuki program. As a student of Stephen Geber, Benjamin graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Music with his Master's Degree and Professional Studies Diploma, after receiving his Bachelor of Music in Cello Performance with departmental distinction from St. Olaf College. Prior to his cello career, Benjamin was a celebrated boy soprano and graduate of the American Boychoir School, touring internationally from the age of 11 to perform with world-class orchestras and artists. Benjamin's voice can be heard in the movie "Interview with the Vampire" (1994) during the opening credits. In his spare time, Benjamin enjoys playing outreach concerts with his harpist fiancée and can be found taking walks in the 19th Ward with his Devon Rex rescue cat, Pippa.

# PROGRAM

Sérénade

Gaspar Cassadó  
transcr. Browning

French Set:

Le Cygne (The Swan)

Camille Saint-Saëns, transcr. Browning

Après un Rêve (After a Dream)

Gabriel Fauré, transcr. Casals

Beau Soir (Beautiful Night)

Claude Debussy, transcr. Ma/Browning

"Pas de Deux" from The Nutcracker

Pyotr Tchaikovsky  
arr. Browning-Krug

Bayou Home

William Grant Still  
arr. A. Still, transcr. Browning-Krug

Song on the Land

Ronn Yedidia  
transcr. Browning-Krug


"Meditation" from Thaïs

Jules Massenet  
arr. Prejtsik/Salzedo

Hallelujah

Leonard Cohen  
arr. Browning-Krug

Grace Browning, harp  
Benjamin Krug, cello

Today's Live from Hochstein concert is broadcast live and in stereo  
on  FM, 91.5 with host Mona Seghatoleslami.

The Hochstein School is grateful to Sidney & Barbara Sobel  
for generously providing continuous underwriting support for  
Live from Hochstein since 1993.

Thank you to all of Hochstein's donors and patrons for supporting our mission  
to provide people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities with access to  
excellent music and dance education in a community that nurtures and  
encourages personal achievement.

For more information, please contact Director of Development & Community  
Engagement, Alette Jordan, at [alette.jordan@hochstein.org](mailto:alette.jordan@hochstein.org) or 585-454-4403.



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Today's concert is part of **Public Radio Music Day**, a nationwide event uniting WXXI Classical, WRUR-FM 88.5, and other public radio music stations across the country with fans and artists to celebrate public radio's role in America's music scene. On November 10, stations from coast to coast will celebrate Public Radio Music Day with a range of special activities, including: concerts, special programming, hand-curated playlists, and fan and artist stories. To learn more about what WXXI has planned, visit [WXXI.org/events](https://wxxi.org/events).

## ENJOY THESE PERFORMANCES?

The *Live from Hochstein* series requires financial support to continue providing performances for the Rochester community. If you enjoy these performances, please consider making a donation to The Hochstein School in the baskets provided at the exits, or at <https://hochstein.org/Support>. Any checks can be made out to The Hochstein School, and *Live from Hochstein* should be the memo. THANK YOU!

## SOME AUDIENCE REMINDERS

- Please keep your mask on at all times in our building.
- Please remember to bring proof of vaccination to EACH Live from Hochstein performance that you attend.
- In consideration of the performers and the rest of the audience, we remind you that it is customary to be as quiet as possible during concerts.
- Please turn off any cell phones, pagers or alarms that may sound during the performance. The use of cameras/recording devices is strictly prohibited.
- Fire exits are located along the sides and back of the Performance Hall. In the event of an emergency, please calmly proceed to the nearest exit.

## NEXT WEEK'S PERFORMANCE:

*Ekstasis Duo: ...From the Shadows*

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 12:10PM



This program is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.