Hochstein Faculty Cello Quartet

May 5, 2021
12:10PM
Jennifer Carpenter is an active performing cellist and teacher in Rochester, NY, where she is a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. She holds a Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School and completed the Suzuki teacher training course at The School For Strings in New York City. Carpenter began cello studies at age four in the Suzuki program. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree at Oberlin Conservatory, where she studied with Darrett Adkins. Carpenter has enjoyed teaching cello students of all ages in a variety of settings, including her private studio, Juilliard Pre-College, Kneisel Hall Program for Maine Students, the Wyoming Seminary Performing Arts Institute, and The Hochstein School.

An avid chamber musician, Carpenter has attended The Perlman Music Program, Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, Bowdoin International Music Festival, and the Castleman Quartet Program. During summers she has also attended Orford Musique and Aspen Music Festival. As an enthusiast of historical performance, she studied baroque cello at Juilliard with Phoebe Carrai, as well as viola da gamba and baroque cello with Cathy Meints at Oberlin, where she performed with Oberlin Baroque Orchestra.

John Delmonico has been teaching cello since he was 16. He began studying his instrument in first grade in the public school system and later received a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Nazareth College. In 2009, Delmonico was given an opportunity to work in a violin shop as an administrative assistant. He quickly became enamored with the bench work and received his training from master luthier Kenneth Sullivan. Nine years later, Delmonico has become known for his cello expertise, setups, and adjustments, aiding players in achieving their optimal sound. He is co-owner of Delmonico & Dugdale Strings.

During Delmonico’s time as a luthier, he has continued to maintain a private cello studio and work as a community musician. Delmonico is co-founder of the Delmonico String Quartet. He also plays in a variety of local bands and is on the board of Center Stage Pops, a semiprofessional community pops orchestra here in Rochester.

Rachel Mills is a Rochester-based cello teacher, performer, and artist. A native of the area, she grew up through Hochstein's orchestral, chamber music, and lesson programs, and even performed on Live from Hochstein a few times as a high school student. Mills received her Bachelor's Degree in Cello Performance from Oberlin Conservatory, where she studied with Amir Eldan. While at Oberlin, she was a secondary lesson teacher and taught through the string prep department. Mills went on to study at the Royal Conservatoire of the Hague in the Netherlands, where she was the recipient of a Holland Scholarship and Excellence Scholarship.

Mills is passionate about finding creative ways to inspire younger audiences to engage with classical music. She has traveled to Panamá to teach and perform in connection with La Asociación Nacional de Conciertos, and was invited as a faculty member to the SA Oaxaca Strings International Music Festival in Mexico. Mills is also the cello teaching artist for ROCmusic, a Rochester city music program modeled after Venezuela's El Sistema. As a performer, Mills aims to mix musical periods, art disciplines, and performance settings. Mills has participated in advanced and fellowship chamber programs across the US and the Netherlands and worked with award-winning groups. She is currently part of a duo with Rochester-based dancer and choreographer, Zoe Wälders.

Natalie Spehar has made her mark as a genre-bending electric and acoustic cellist, writer, arranger, and creative educator. Recognized for her versatile skill set, Spehar has performed live with artists including Disturbed, Cage the Elephant, 2 Cellos, Josh Groban, Sarah Brightman, Dessa, Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith, Johnny Mathis, Michael Bolton, Il Volo, Michael Bublé, and the Trans-Siberian Orchestra.

Spehar is also an active composer and studio recording artist whose playing appears in the soundtrack for the motion picture Decoding Annie Parker, as well as the television documentary Through the Eye of the Needle and the award-winning animated short film Test Anxiety, for which she composed and recorded the original score. Spehar is a graduate of Eastman School of Music and the University of Maryland and has traveled to perform & lecture on her work in string performance with electronics at universities across the United States. Her “ALT-C” Alternative-genre private lesson and workshop options are available online worldwide.
PROGRAM

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Incidental Music, Op.61
Notturno (Nocturne)  
Felix Mendelssohn  
arr. Glenna Curren

Slavonic Dances, Op. 46
Furiant—Presto (G minor)  
Antonín Dvořák  
arr. Carrie Lane Gruselle

Serenade for Four Cellos, Op. 119, No. 2  
Georg Goltermann

Temptation Rag  
Henry Lodge  
arr. John Carr

Cello Suite No. 6 in D major, BWV 1012
Sarabande  
Gavottes I & II  
J.S. Bach  
arr. Colin Hampton

Nothing Else Matters  
Metallica  
arr. Apocalyptica

La Muerte del Ángel  
Astor Piazzolla  
arr. Blaise Déjardin

Jennifer Carpenter, cello
John Delmonico, cello
Rachel Mills, cello
Natalie Spehar, cello

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

The Hochstein School is grateful to Sidney & Barbara Sobel for providing continuous underwriting support for Live from Hochstein since 1993.
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. You may donate online at https://hochstein.org/Support or mail a check to us. Checks can be made out to The Hochstein School, and *Live from Hochstein* should be the memo.

THANK YOU!

The Hochstein School wishes to thank its donors and patrons for their support of 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, Ayette Jordan, at ayette.jordan@hochstein.org or 585-454-4403.

NEXT WEEK’S PERFORMANCE:

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 12:10PM
2020 and 2021 Hochstein Merit Scholarship Winners
Joshua Fugate, violin; Katherine Huang, flute; Sean Li, piano; Isaac Pollock, guitar

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