

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black dress and high heels, sits in a patterned armchair. She is holding a viola and looking thoughtfully to her right. The room has deep red walls adorned with several empty, gold-colored picture frames of various sizes. To her left is a red velvet sofa with a patterned cushion. The floor is made of light-colored wood, and a red rug is partially visible in the foreground.

Carol Gimbel, viola

2023

Carol Gimbel, viola

About Me

Armed with the ex-Emmanuel Vardi 1725 viola, New York City violist Carol Gimbel has been described as an "intrepid adventurer" presenting "goosebump-worthy, rare and thought-provoking concert performances".

2023 Performances & Outreach

2023 brings Gimbel's debut release on Navona Records, "Chamber Works for Viola" by Order of Canada and 40 year CBC veteran composer and producer David Jaeger. Below outlines Gimbel's 2023 concert offerings including recital performances, masterclasses, artist talks and lectures.

Recitals

Traditional recital programs featuring sonatas championed by Carol Gimbel and specially curated concerts.

An Evening of Song

This vocal trio performance for viola, mezzo-soprano and piano is an elegant one-hour performance of works inspired by song.

Additional Outreach

Viola Masterclass

Lecture/Q&A
New careers in
viola performance

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2022 - 2023 Biography



Carol Gimbel

Viola

Known for her bewitching, “goose-bump-worthy” performances where “the stagecraft alone is worth the price of admission”, violist Carol Gimbel has enjoyed a recent debut recital at Lincoln Center’s Rose Studio and appearances at Piccolo Spoleto Festival, the Music Matters Series at La Grua Center, Haus der Musik (Mexico) and the Ottawa ChamberFest (Canada).

A multifaceted musician, producer, and entrepreneur, Ms. Gimbel has spearheaded the commissioning and presentation of major concert and multimedia works, premiering numerous acoustic and electro-acoustic works for the viola, and championing chamber works for small and large ensembles. Her upcoming release on Navona Records, "Chamber Works for Viola" features the music of Order of Canada and 40-year CBC veteran composer and producer David Jaeger.

In 2008 she founded her organization 'Music in the Barns' in Toronto, Ontario, to actively explore what it means to be a classical musician today experimenting with performance and education traditions and reimagining them for 21st century ears. Music in the Barns has pioneered innovative approaches to contemporary classical music events almost everywhere except conventional concert halls. From the Hearn Generating Station's 400,000 sq. ft to intimate storefronts and festival appearances, Music in the Barns has been hailed for "obliterating the audience / performer boundary". Currently, in partnership with the Canada Council for the Arts Digital Strategies Fund, Music in the Barns is exploring strategies for making music pedagogy more accessible with the development and early testing of a prototype digital musical instrument.

Ms. Gimbel regularly presents masterclasses and lectures regarding alternative viola careers, with appearances at the University of Toronto, International Viola Congress in Los Angeles, and the International Maker Faire in New York among others.

Pennsylvania-born, Ms. Gimbel's early musical influence was shaped by the string playing legacy of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and grew through an immersion in chamber music under the tutelage of Paul Katz and members of the Cleveland Quartet. With gratitude to the time spent with her beloved teachers and mentors, Ms. Gimbel performs with her compatriot the ex-Emanuel Vardi viola crafted circa 1725.

Media Links



Violist Carol Gimbel on stage at Constitución Cultural Center, Guadalajara, MX -- Feb 14, 2018

Rebecca Clarke · Sonata for Viola and Piano (1919)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-VfzKDnHVg>

Rebecca Clarke · Morpheus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPezIHCvYoE>

II. Lento (Jose Pablo Moncayo Sonata for Viola & Piano)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uMoZIH9rj8Y>

Georg Philipp Telemann · Viola Concerto

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwVe4UzVJNo>

Sample Recital Programs

Carol Gimbel, viola with Cullan Bryant, piano

Program A - 2023 Album Release Concert

- J.P Moncayo Sonata for Viola and Piano (1934)
D. Jaeger Sonata for Viola and Piano No. 2 (2022)
 INTERMISSION
R. Clarke Sonata for Viola and Piano (1919)

Program B -The Soul of the Viola

- B Britten Lachrymae. Reflections on a song by John Dowland. Op. 48a
OR
J.S. Bach Sonata for Viola da Gamba in G major, BWV 1027
Schumann Märchenbilder, Op.113
 INTERMISSION
R. Clarke Sonata for Viola and Piano (1919)

Program C - Complete Hindemith Sonatas

- Hindemith Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op. 11, No. 4
Hindemith Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op. 25 No. 4
 INTERMISSION
Hindemith Sonata for Viola and Piano in C major (1939)

Additional Repertoire

- R. Schumann 5 Stücke im Volkston, Op.102
M. De Falla Seis canciones populares españolas
P. Glass The French Lieutenant Dreams and The Orchard
L.v. Beethoven Notturmo
C. Taylor Perkinson Lament for Viola and Piano
R. Bolton Memory of Waves (2014)



About Cullan Bryant, piano

Pianist Cullan Bryant is a preeminent soloist, chamber musician and accompanist in New York City celebrated for his "expressive grace, interpretive acuity and total command" (Gramophone Magazine). His performance legacy has brought him to the most prestigious stages around the world as a collaborative pianist with Midori, Mikhail Kopelman, Ju-Young Baek, Emanuel Borok, Colin Jacobsen, Misha Keylin, Oleh Krysa, Peter Rejto, Paul Tobias, members of the Amati, American, Arcata and Borromeo Quartets and members of the New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, New York City Ballet Orchestra, Boston and the Detroit Symphony Orchestras.

An Evening of Song

**Featuring Carol Gimbel, viola
with guest artist Marina Poplavskya, mezzo-soprano
& Cullan Bryant, piano**

*60 minutes runtime, no intermission

B. Britten Lachrymæ, Reflections on a song of John Dowland,
for viola & piano, Op.48 (1950)

J. Dowland If My Complaints Could Passions Move (1597)

G. Crumb Three Early Songs for voice and piano (1947)

R. Strauss "Stiller Gang" from Four Lieder, Op. 31 (1897)

J. Brahms Two Songs for Voice, Viola and Piano, Op. 91 (1884)

M. DeFalla Seis canciones populares españolas (1914)
(arr. Cullan Bryant & Carol Gimbel)

*optional substitution -- Three Songs by David Jaeger for viola and piano

About Guest Artist Marina Poplavskaya



Russian born mezzo-soprano, Marina Poplavskaya has established herself internationally as one of the most arresting young artists to be heard today. Metropolitan Opera star, Ms. Poplavskaya has performed at important theatres throughout the world such as the Vienna State Opera, Bavarian State Opera, Munich, Berlin State Opera, Netherlands Opera, Los Angeles Opera, and many others including the Salzburg Festival.

Additional Outreach

At the heart of Carol's music-making is a focus on storytelling and community building to help audiences connect to the world and to themselves in new ways.

Carol's mission was sparked at age 13, with her wondering why there were so many string players in her area of suburban Pennsylvania, and yet no youth orchestra. This led Carol and her father to found the Youth Orchestra of Bucks County—and set Carol off on her life's quest to create more opportunities for audiences and musicians to find connections.

Carol went on to build her award-winning Music in the Barns project and has been commissioned to design and curate programs for the Toronto Summer Music Festival, the Canadian Music Centre, Symphony in the Barn, the Drake Hotel and The Foundry Historic Building Redevelopment Project.

She enjoys talking and participating in panel discussions about her experiences including University of Toronto, Los Angeles Viola Congress and the International Maker Faire in New York City.

Carol is available for:

Viola Masterclasses

Lectures/Q&A

(sample topics)

New careers in viola performance

The Symbiosis of Musical Art and Environmental Consciousness

Additionally, guest artist Cullan Bryant, piano, is available for artist talks:

FREE*Beethoven - a talk about researching, cataloguing and recording unrecorded sketches of Beethoven's manuscript

The inner workings of chamber Music

as well as masterclasses and coachings for all instruments and piano chamber ensembles.

Carol Gimbel

in the news

(/en)

July 2019

▶ THE AWESOME FOUNDATION

[Previous Project \(/en/projects/125752-gender-reveal-party\)](#)

[Next Project \(/en/projects/123233-613-day-block-party\)](#)

#1000Strings



Ottawa, ON ([/en/chapters/ottawa](#)) project created by Carol Gimbel

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July's Awesome Ottawa award goes to [Carol Gimbel \(http://www.carolgimbel.com\)](http://www.carolgimbel.com) to support a mass participatory concert in Wellington West, as part of [Chamberfest \(http://www.chamberfest.com\)](http://www.chamberfest.com).

"Young musician, avid amateur, seasoned pro, and enthusiastic concert attendee – all are welcome at #1000Strings," says Carol. "The outdoor performance will feature award-winning composer John Oswald's seminal work [Spectre \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BH1RLz5q-vk\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BH1RLz5q-vk), which was commissioned by the Kronos Quartet in 1990 and combines live quartet with multi-layered overdub, creating the illusion of a 1000-piece string orchestra. With #1000Strings, the community joins forces to make that illusion a reality."

Play violin, viola, cello, or bass and want to join in? [Signing up \(https://ottawachambermusic.secure.force.com/donate/?dfid=a0n1K00000gg8HEQAY\)](https://ottawachambermusic.secure.force.com/donate/?dfid=a0n1K00000gg8HEQAY) to participate is free. Want to just enjoy the show? It takes place Saturday, August 3rd, at 11 AM, in Hintonburg Park.

Carol is a performer, producer, and director. She is also Secretary of the Canadian Viola Society and founder of [Music in the Barns \(http://www.musicinthebarns.com\)](http://www.musicinthebarns.com), which specializes in repurposing alternative performance venues for bespoke, site-specific "installation concerts."

Funded by OTTAWA, ON (July 2019)