

BIOS

Shriver, Sarah Brightman, Governor Jerry Brown, Billy Bob Thornton, and members of Journey, Tower of Power, Santana, Sly and the Family Stone.

Away from the piano, you can hear her as the Midday Classical Host for CapRadio (88.9FM), where she loves to talk about the music and highlight local artists! Her features have also been aired on such nationally syndicated shows as NPR's Morning Edition and All Things Considered. She also works extensively with the Grammy Awards, as a Voting Member of the Recording Academy as well as a recently elected Governor to the Recording Academy Board of Directors SF Chapter and a District Advocate to the State Assembly on behalf of professional musicians.

Cellist **Timothy Stanley** performs regularly with Northern California orchestras, symphonies, opera companies and musical theaters, as well as area baroque ensembles Sinfonia Spirituosa, Butte Baroque and Sacramento Baroque Soloists. He is a founding member of Citywater, a modern chamber music sextet.

Timothy earned his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, and his Master's in Cello Performance and California Teaching Credential from Sacramento State University, where his primary teachers were Dr. Andrew Smith and Andrew Luchansky. In addition to teaching private cello and violin lessons, he is the music director at W. E. Mitchell Middle School in Rancho Cordova. He is also on faculty at Sacramento State's School of Music, where he teaches string pedagogy, music theory and musicianship, and runs the String Project, which provides low-cost music training to Sacramento-area elementary school children, while allowing undergraduate and graduate music students to refine their roles as professional string teachers.

When not behind his cello or in front of a room full of young musicians, Tim can be found racing triathlon of all distances, marathon and ultramarathon footraces, open water swim events, century bike rides or backpacking with his partner, flutist Cathie Apple and their wonderful two dogs Jake and Elwood.

Faculty Recital

Cathie Apple, flute

with

Jennifer Reason, piano

George England, guitar

Tim Stanley, cello

THURSDAY, 7:00 P.M.
FEBRUARY 26, 2026
CAPISTRANO HALL 151

Feathers and Wax (2015) Amanda Harberg

Pathways of Desire (2024) Reena Esmail

- I. Unfurl
- II. Elapse
- III. Surge

Triptych (2020) Clarice Assad

- I.
- II. A Quiet Place
- III. Rio, 1991

Dviraag (2009) Asha Srinivasan

Trio for Piano, Flute, and Cello, Op. 45 Louise Farrenc

(1804-1875)

- I. Allegro deciso
- II. Andante
- III. Scherzo
- IV. Finale

Cantanti Project, Ensemble Musica Humana, and the Brooklyn Composers' Collective. On the West Coast, his performances include appearances with the Sacramento Philharmonic and Opera (mandolin), the UC Davis University Orchestra (banjo), Marin Baroque, Sacramento Baroque Soloists, Sinfonia Spirituosa (baroque guitar and lute), and the O'Connor/England Guitar Duo. Internationally, he has performed in Koblenz, Germany as a member of Duo Raccontare with soprano Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, and has appeared as a soloist in Khanom, Thailand.

An active educator dedicated to fostering ties with the broader community, Dr. England currently leads guitar studies at Napa Valley College and serves as Lecturer in Guitar at Sacramento State, where he also advises the Guitar Club. His previous faculty appointments include California State University, Northridge; Yuba Community College; the Diller-Quaile School of Music; 92nd Street Y; Third Street Music School; NYC Guitar School; and Music Stream Center in Davis. He is the founder of the Sacramento Guitar School and serves on the Board of Directors of Sinfonia Spirituosa.

George holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Stony Brook University, where his research focused on the analysis and interpretation of seventeenth-century French and Italian lute works and twentieth-century serial compositions for guitar.

Hailed as a pianist "in the league of Carnegie Hall," a "rising star" whose playing is "lush, sensual and colorful: like a painting" (*Sulzbach-Rosenberger, Germany*), a "powerhouse" (*Victor Forman, CPR*), and one who possesses an "extraordinary skill" (*D. Frantztreb, SCC*), **Jennifer Reason** is a vibrant and versatile performer in consistent demand, and a frequent face in the recording studio. She was an on-call session player at Berkeley's Fantasy Studios, and most recently recorded at the legendary Abbey Road Studios in London. Solo/ensemble performance credits now cover seventeen countries and fifteen states, including ten European festivals, two appearances at Carnegie Hall, and an international conducting debut at St Peter's Basilica, Vatican City. She is a proud recipient of the Sacramento Business Journal's Top 40 Under 40 award and an Emmy Nomination for the PBS documentary *The Sound of Giving*, with vocal ensemble RSVP.

Collaboratively, she works as Music Director of the modern opera collective Rogue Music Project and as a pit musician for both Broadway Sacramento and Broadway SF. She is honored to have shared the stage with notable personalities such as Josh Groban, Wayne Brady, Dr. Cornell West, Maria

PERFORMER BIOS

Dr. Cathie Apple is the Flute Instructor at Sacramento State’s School of Music, Principal flutist for North State Symphony, and one of the founders of Citywater new music ensemble. She is a regular performer at the Music at Noon concert series in Sacramento and performs on traverso with Sinfonia Spirituosa baroque orchestra.

An avid supporter of new music, Cathie has commissioned and/or premiered many works for flute and various chamber ensembles, has collaborated with composers such as Clare Shore, Nicholas Deyoe, Brent Chancellor, Derek Keller, Nell Shaw Cohen, Ryan Suleiman, Josiah Catalan, and Sunny Knable, and regularly performs on the Festival of New American Music. She has been a commissioning member of the Flute New Music Consortium since 2019, and joined consortiums for composers Juri Seo and Alan Theisen, among others.

Along with her specialization in modern music, Dr. Apple performs regularly on traverso, with baroque ensemble Sinfonia Spirituosa. Her traverso is made by Martin Wenner and is modeled after a mid-18th century flute designed by Italian flute-maker Carlo Palanca. Cathie maintains a private teaching studio in Sacramento and for over a decade was the flute instructor at the Pacific Institute of Music in Folsom. Previous appointments include second flutist with the Las Vegas Philharmonic and adjunct faculty at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Southern Utah University. While in Las Vegas, Cathie founded NEXTET new music ensemble, and performed with them at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Cathie earned her Doctorate from the University of Michigan, where she studied with Amy Porter. While in Michigan, Cathie also taught at Interlochen Arts Camp and was the yoga instructor for Amy Porter’s Anatomy of Sound workshop. In addition to maintaining a busy teaching and performing schedule, Cathie is a fitness instructor at the WELL at Sac State, and enjoys doing CrossFit, triathlons, obstacle races, and going on long backpacking trips to recharge her batteries.

Dr. George Benton England is a versatile guitarist whose artistry bridges modern and historical performance practice. Equally at home as a soloist and chamber musician, he performs on contemporary and period instruments, bringing stylistic depth and expressive nuance to a broad and diverse repertoire.

Dr. England has collaborated with distinguished ensembles throughout the United States and abroad. In New York City, he has appeared with the

COMPOSER BIOS

Composer, pianist, and educator **Amanda Harberg** has had her music performed at major venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Verizon Hall, and Symphony Center. Praised for blending classical tradition with a vibrant contemporary voice, her music has been championed by leading artists and ensembles. In 2021, Yannick Nezet-Seguín led the premiere of her *Piccolo Concerto* with The Philadelphia Orchestra, calling it “an extraordinary addition to the limited repertoire.” Her works—published by Theodore Presser Co.—have received numerous awards and are performed worldwide, with particular acclaim in the woodwind community.

An active collaborative pianist, Harberg performs with distinguished musicians from major orchestras and maintains a duo partnership with piccoloist Erica Peel. She has also composed film scores for documentaries broadcast nationally on PBS. Dr. Harberg is Associate Professor of Contemporary Writing and Production at Berklee College of Music and serves on the summer composition faculty at Interlochen Arts Camp. A dedicated educator for over two decades, she is a frequent guest artist and mentor to young composers and performers.

Reena Esmail’s music weaves together the traditions of Hindustani and Western classical music, drawing musicians from many perspectives into shared creative spaces. Esmail divides her attention evenly between orchestral, chamber and choral work. She has written commissions for ensembles including the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Seattle Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra and San Francisco Symphony and her music has featured on multiple Grammy-nominated albums, including *The Singing Guitar* by Conspirare, *BRUITS* by Imani Winds, and *Healing Modes* by Brooklyn Rider.

Esmail was the Los Angeles Master Chorale’s 2020-2025 Swan Family Artist in Residence, and was Seattle Symphony’s 2020-21 Composer-in-Residence. She has been in residence with Tanglewood Music Center (co-Curator – 2023), Spoleto Festival (Chamber Music Composer-in-Residence – 2024) and Marlboro Music Festival (2025 Composer in Residence). Esmail holds degrees in composition from The Juilliard School and the Yale School of Music. Her primary teachers have included Susan Botti, Aaron Jay Kernis, Christopher Theofanidis, Christopher Rouse, and Samuel Adler. She received a Fulbright-Nehru grant to study Hindustani music in India. Her Hindustani music teachers include Srimati Lakshmi Shankar and Gaurav Mazumdar, and she currently studies and collaborates with Saili Oak. Esmail resides in her hometown of Los Angeles, CA.

A powerful communicator renowned for her musical scope and versatility, Brazilian-American **Clarice Assad** is a significant artistic voice in the classical, world music, pop, and jazz genres. The Grammy Award–nominated composer, celebrated pianist, inventive vocalist, and educator is acclaimed for her evocative colors, rich textures, and diverse stylistic range. With her talent sought-after by artists and organizations worldwide, the polyglot musician continues to attract new audiences both onstage and off.

The prolific composer has more than 90 works to her credit, including numerous commissions for Carnegie Hall, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Orquestra Sinfônica de São Paulo, ROCO, LA Philharmonic, Grand Teton Music Festival, Santa Rosa Symphony, Metropolis ensemble, the Bravo! Vail Music Festival, and the La Jolla Music Festival, to name a few. Her compositions have been recorded by some of the most prominent names in classical music, including percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, and oboist Liang Wang. Assad's music has been performed by Philadelphia Orchestra, Tokyo Symphony, Queensland Symphony, and the Orquestra Sinfônica de São Paulo, among others. She has served as a composer-in-residence for the Albany Symphony, the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, New Century Chamber Orchestra, and the Boston Landmarks Orchestra.

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Clarice Assad has lived in Brazil, France, and the United States. One of the most widely performed Brazilian concert music composers of her generation, she is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including an Aaron Copland Award, several ASCAP awards in composition, a Morton Gould Young Composer Award, the Van Lier Fellowship, the Franklin Honor Society Award, the Samuel Ostrowsky Humanities Award, the New Music Alive Partnership program by the League of American Orchestras, and a McKnight Visiting Composer Award. Assad holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Chicago's Roosevelt University, and a Master of Music degree from The University of Michigan School of Music, where she studied with Michael Daugherty, Susan Botti, and Evan Chambers.

Asha Srinivasan (b. 3 July 1980, Logan, Utah) is an Indian American composer and educator. Dr. Srinivasan holds a DMA in composition from the University of Maryland; an M.Mus. in computer music composition and M.Mus. in music theory pedagogy, Peabody Conservatory; and a B.A. in music.

She has been involved with music since early childhood in India. Her extended family on both of her parents' sides are musical. Her mother Lalitha is currently a professional singer of Indian film songs and sings all over the

U.S. When she was in India, at age 6, Asha started taking vocal lessons in Carnatic music (the classical music of Southern India). After moving to the U.S., Dr. Srinivasan was introduced to Western classical music through the public school system. In high school, she had the opportunity to take her first music theory class. What was supposed to be theoretical part-writing exercises turned into compositional experiments and thus sparked her passion for creating music. She was enthralled by the possibilities of integrating aspects of the Carnatic style into the Western music idiom. Thus, she draws from her Western musical training and Indian heritage to create her compositional language. She is currently associate professor of music (theory/composition/ electronic music) at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisc.

Louise Farrenc was a French composer, pianist and teacher. She was born in 1804 in Paris and grew up surrounded by sculptors, painters and artistic women. She studied piano from a young age, with her talents picked up and encouraged by the likes of Clementi and Hummel. After becoming interested in composing she applied for the prestigious Paris Conservatory, aged 15.

After completing her studies, Farrenc started her career as a concert pianist, becoming quite famous in the 1830s. In 1842 she became the only woman to be appointed to the position of professor at the Paris Conservatory in the 19th century – the only such appointment for a woman for the entire 19th century. She stayed at the conservatory for 30 years, over which time she became one of the greatest piano professors in Europe.

Despite not having the popular profile of her male composer counterparts, Louise Farrenc never gave up writing music. She penned orchestral symphonies and overtures (of which Hector Berlioz was a big fan). But it was her chamber music that made the biggest impact and were held in particularly high regard amongst the Parisian critics. She won the chartier prize in 1861 and in 1869.

She battled for equality, and she won. Although she was writing critically acclaimed music, Farrenc was paid far less than the male professors at the conservatory. She wanted to change this and often protested to the authorities, trying to gain equality for nearly a decade. She also let her music do the talking, and after the very successful premiere of her nonet she once again demanded equal play to her male counterparts, and it was granted. Virtuoso, performer, composer, and equality campaigner. As a composer, she never got the popular recognition she deserved during her lifetime, but she kept writing her music and fighting for fairness. What a legend.