



THE SAINT PAUL
CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra appoints violist Lisa Sung as newest orchestra member

SAINT PAUL, MN, MAY 18, 2023 — The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) announces today that violist Lisa Sung has been appointed as the newest member of the orchestra, joining the viola section. Her first concerts as a full-time member will occur at the beginning of the 2023.24 season. Sung has performed numerous times with the orchestra; her most recent concerts were in [October 2022](#), filmed at the Ordway Concert Hall.

“We are thrilled to welcome Lisa Sung to The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra viola section,” said SPCO Principal Viola Maiya Papach. “She has a beautiful musical sensitivity and a great command of the instrument, and we look forward to working with her in the SPCO. Welcome, Lisa!”

“I am beyond thrilled to become a member of The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra starting this fall!” Sung said regarding her upcoming tenure with the orchestra. “The SPCO’s mission deeply resonates with my goals, and their commitment to artistic freedom, innovation, and creativity is something that I greatly value. Working alongside such incredible musicians will be a truly rewarding and inspiring experience, and I am so excited to contribute my love and passion for chamber music and orchestra to this dream ensemble. It is my honor to be welcomed into this family, and I look forward to collaborating with my colleagues in creating special musical experiences for our audiences and the community!”

“We are so excited that Lisa will be joining the SPCO,” said Managing Director and President Jon Limbacher regarding Sung’s appointment. “She is a wonderful musician and a great addition to our amazing viola section. We look forward to welcoming her to the orchestra, the SPCO family and our community this fall.”

ABOUT LISA SUNG

Hailed by the *Australian Daily Telegraph* as a "viola prodigy," Australian-Korean violist Lisa Sung is a laureate of numerous international competitions including the 12th Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition and the 10th Gisborne International Music Competition. She has performed the Bartók Concerto at the Sydney Opera House and played in other renowned venues such as Carnegie, Seoul Arts Center, and Alice Tully Hall. She has had the distinct honor of performing for the Prime Minister of Australia, John Howard, has been featured live on WQXR, Medici TV, 2MBS-FM (Sydney), and has been recognized in both Australian and Korean national publications.

Lisa is a guest musician with world-class orchestras including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra and the San Francisco Symphony. In the summer of 2022, she joined the New York Philharmonic on their tour of Germany, which was followed by a Krzyżowa-Music Festival tour of Poland and Germany. This summer, Lisa is set to embark on a European tour with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

A passionate chamber musician, she has performed alongside distinguished artists such as Gary Hoffman, Paul Neubauer, and Donald Weilerstein, and has worked closely with the Borromeo, Brentano, Emerson, Juilliard, and Shanghai String Quartets. She has participated in prestigious music festivals such as Music@Menlo, Verbier Festival Academy, Yellow Barn, Perlman Music Program, Four Seasons Chamber Music Workshop, Taos School of Music, Krzyżowa-Music Festival, Lac Léman Music Masterclass, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, and IMS Prussia Cove.

Furthermore, Lisa's deep commitment to using music as a powerful tool to bring people together and provide comfort to those in need has been an integral part of her musical journey. This dedication began at age six when she started performing biweekly in nursing homes and hospitals throughout her hometown of Sydney, giving over 300 community engagement performances in a span of twelve years. Since then, Lisa has continued to expand her reach, bringing music to audiences across Europe and Asia, and in various community engagement programs, such as the Gluck Fellowship at Juilliard, Music@Menlo Winter Residency, Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach, and the Perlman Music Program Community Engagement Retreat.

Originally from Sydney, Australia, Lisa earned her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School where she studied with Paul Neubauer and Cynthia Phelps as a proud recipient of the inaugural Kovner Fellowship. She is currently completing her Graduate Diploma degree at the New England Conservatory under the tutelage of Kim Kashkashian, and she will be joining the esteemed Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra this fall as their newest member.

www.lisasungviola.com

ABOUT THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Renowned for its artistic excellence, remarkable versatility of musical styles and adventurous programming, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world. Now in its 64th season, the SPCO is primarily an uncondacted ensemble that performs a broad range of repertoire from Baroque to new music and works in close collaboration with a dynamic roster of Artistic Partners. The current roster of Artistic Partners consists of British Baroque specialists Jonathan Cohen and Richard Egarr, American composer and musical commentator Rob Kapilow, South African cellist Abel Selaocoe and German violist Tabea Zimmermann.

The virtuoso musicians of the SPCO present more than 100 concerts and educational programs in the Twin Cities each year. The orchestra's free online [Concert Library](#) offers both live and on-demand videos of concerts that can be viewed anytime, anywhere, completely free of charge. Through its partnership with YourClassical Minnesota Public Radio and American Public Media, the SPCO is regularly heard on public radio programs that reach nearly 850,000 listeners each week on over 250 stations. Additionally, the SPCO has released 68 recordings, including its recent critically acclaimed album of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Piano Concertos with former Artistic Partner Jeremy Denk and the 2018 Grammy Award-winning recording of Franz Schubert's *Death and the Maiden* with violinist and former Artistic Partner Patricia Kopatchinskaja. In addition to its programs in the Twin Cities, the orchestra also tours nationally and internationally, including

recent engagements in Europe and New York City, and prestigious residencies at the 2021 and 2022 Bravo! Vail Music Festival with violinists Joshua Bell and Stefan Jackiw.

The SPCO is deeply committed to expanding the orchestral repertoire, commissioning more than 160 new works throughout its 63-year history and receiving 17 ASCAP awards for adventurous programming. In a divergence from the industry standard of commissioning individual works from composers, the SPCO's new [Sandbox Composer Residency program](#) invites composers to experiment freely across a variety of new works created in collaboration with the musicians of the SPCO. This alternative residency model will allow composers to workshop new pieces, experiment and revise, take risks, develop relationships with SPCO musicians and engage with SPCO audiences.

The SPCO is nationally recognized for its commitment to broad community accessibility and inclusion, along with its innovative audience engagement efforts. Regular subscription series are performed in a variety of different venues across the Twin Cities metropolitan area each season, a unique commitment to geographic accessibility for a major orchestra. The SPCO offers the most affordable ticket prices of any professional orchestra in the United States, with over 50 percent of tickets available for \$15 or less, and has expanded accessibility even further by offering free tickets for children and students starting in the 2016.17 season as a part of the [New Generation Initiative](#). The orchestra also offers an innovative ticket membership model in which members pay \$9 per month to attend unlimited concerts, with a \$5 per month concert membership option for members of [club2030](#), the orchestra's program for audience members in their 20s and 30s. The SPCO's award-winning [CONNECT education program](#) reaches over 3,000 students and teachers annually in 10 Minneapolis and Saint Paul public schools, and its [Free Family Music program](#) provides engaging musical experiences designed for children and their families in various locations throughout the Twin Cities.

The SPCO is a proud member of the [Arts Partnership](#), a 501(c)(3) organization composed of the four organizations that perform regularly at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts – Minnesota Opera, the Ordway, the SPCO and Schubert Club. The Partnership's mission is to strengthen its organizations in service to the community through growing collaboration and stewardship of its shared assets. The Partnership works together to maintain the Ordway venue, to expand access for other community arts organizations to perform in the Concert Hall and to engage in collaborative artistic programming.

MISSION OF THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Our mission is to sustain a world-class chamber orchestra at the highest standards of artistic excellence that enriches the Twin Cities community by sharing dynamic, distinctive and engaging performances. We are actively committed to accessibility and intentional inclusivity in all aspects of our work and continually strive to provide all people in our community with opportunities to connect with the music we perform.

PHOTOS

Access photos of The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra [here](#). Click on the thumbnails to view images. Then, right click and select "Save image as..." to download.

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