

50TH

INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS



version 08/12/25

Schedule

NEW HORIZONS CELEBRATING LEGACY AND DIVERSITY

CONCERTS • MASTERCLASSES • WORKSHOPS • LECTURES • EXHIBITIONS

PARIS

JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026



	Nom	Prenom	Nom du projet	Dates	Lieux	Salle
1	HARLEY	Jan-Hendrik	Sidlala, siyamamela ("we play, we listen")	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
2	MOOLMAN	Jeanne-Louise	Myths in the making	19 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
4	ADAMS	Jacob	Lamentation for Viola and Piano by Jeanne Behrend	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
6	ASBELL	Ames	A Unique Voice: The Viola Music of Alvin Etler	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
7	ASBELL	Ames	Rediscovering Charlotte Hampe: Composer, Performer, and Educator	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
10	BALBOA	Ruben	Charles Martin Loeffler's Unpublished Songs for Viola, Voice, and Piano: A Rediscovery	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
11	BALJA	Ayn	Resonance: Women Create Sound	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
12	BEAVER	Johanna	Beyond Suzuki: Pop and Inclusivity in the Beginner Viola Studio	19 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
13	BRADDOCK	Andrew	The Voice of the Viola: Betsy Jolas's Works for Viola	19 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
15	BUCKSTEAD	Brian	The Rhythm of New Life: Two Works for Amplified Viola and Electronics by Stephen Andrew Taylor	20 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
17	BURTON	Tonya	Edge of a Dream: Evocative Works by Living Composers	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
18	CALDWELL	Brenton	Karen Tuttle's Legacy Beyond Coordination	20 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
20	CLARK	Richard	Errs and Dances for Viola Quartet by Richard Aldon Clark	23 January	Opera Bastille	Studio
21	DANE	Matthew	Air and Resonance: New Music for Viola d'Amore and Flute	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
24	DEVROYE	Anthony	Women of Character: Music by Lillian Fuchs and Melia Watras	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
25	DONA	Daniel	Laktawan at Tumulon: Filipinx Music for Viola	19 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
26	EBERSOHL-VAN SCYOC	Christina	Echoes of Egypt: Recovering Heritage and Expanding the Viola's Voice Across Cultures	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
27	EBERSOHL-VAN SCYOC	Christina	Reclaiming Heritage: Contemporary Egyptian Art Music at the Intersection of East and West	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
31	FORTUNE-READER	Christiana	Frondescence	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
33	GALAGANOV	Micha	Telemann's 12 Fantasies for Viola da Gamba Solo on Viola — Pleasures, Benefits, and Uses for Performance and Technique	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
34	GEE CORDOVA	Daniel	Finding Center - Principles of Left Hand Balance and Alignment	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
37	HERNDON	Hillary	Mosaic: Viola Ensembles by Black and Latino Composers	23 January	Opera Bastille	Studio
39	HOUDE	Andrea	A Marriage of Musical Worlds: A Performance of Jamie Leigh Sampson's Threw and Through and Andrew Martin Smith's My Garden, My World	19 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
41	KEASLER	Daniel	Palaschko versus Mahler	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
42	KLINE	Linda	Eclectic Viola Quartets for Various Levels	19 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
43	LACOURSE	Michelle	Nostalgia & Laments (New music for unaccompanied viola and viola duo)	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
45	LEE	Hsiaopei	Interwoven Voices: Contemporary Chamber Works by Women Composers	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
47	LEWIS	Katherine	Reimagining the Bow Arm: ViolaXR and the Future of Viola Pedagogy in Virtual Reality	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
48	LINDSAY / GIMBEL	Alice / Carol	Simple Solutions: A New Look at Old Problems in Viola Pedagogy	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
49	MARTINSON	Kenneth	Orchestration of Marco Anzoletti's Viola Concertos	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
50	MEIDELL	Katrin	Niels Gade's Viola Sonatas: Romantic Expression Reimagined	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
51	MEIDELL	Katrin	Lillian Fuchs's Sonata Pastorale and the Evolution of Her Compositional Voice	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
52	MEIDELL	Katrin	Karen Tuttle: The Legacy of Coordination	20 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
54	NIBLACK	Sarah	Decoding your Performance Profile: Understanding your Unique Stress Profile and Brave Antidotes	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
55	PHOENIX-NEAL	Diane	Portrait de Femme: Globetrotting with Women Composers	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
59	SCHLUMPF	Brightin	Rhythm as the Musical Soul in Thomas Adès "Three Berceuses from The Exterminating Angel" for Viola and Piano	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
60	SLOWIK	Peter	Conductivity: Strengthening the Connection Between Performer and Audience	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
61	STEELY	Kathryn	Music for Violin, Viola, and Piano	20 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
62	STULZ	John	Teaching Blindly: Pedagogy of Contemporary Music	23 January	Opera Bastille	Studio

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63	SWEANEY	Daniel	Scharwenka "Fantasia" Sonata for Viola and Piano: A Forgotten Masterpiece	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
65	TYLER	Bryan	The Great Belgian Viola Concerto of 1915	20 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
66	VALOTI	Alicia	Forgotten Women Composers: The Music of Francesca Caccini	19 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
67	WOJTCZACK	Summer	Building Community and Ensemble Skills through the Viola Ensemble	19 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
69	WOLLMAN	Rose	Her Secret Life	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
70	WONG	Eric	The Voice of the Viola: Transcriptions of Beethoven's Violin Sonatas	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
73	SMITH	Jasmine	Australian works for viola and voice	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
74	TATE	Valerie	British Violists of the Late 19th Century: Spotlight on Emil Kreuz and His Viola Concerto	20 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
75	TATE	Valerie	Granville Bantock (1868 - 1946), Sonata in F major for Viola and Piano «Colleen» (1918)	20 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
76	VOGEL / PUCHHAMMER-SEDLLOT / KINGSBURY	Annette-Barbara / Jutta / Brett	Sinfonia Concertante: It Doesn't Always Need to Be Mozart! Rediscovery and Renewal of Walter Braunfels' Forgotten Masterwork in the First-Ever Realization of a Piano Reduction	20 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
77	IVS board	IVS board	Roundtable former hosts: The celebration of the viola in 50 congresses	20 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
78	HELD	Marcus	Transcriptio/Translatio: A Rhetorical Approach to the Art of Transcription	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
79	SAGGIN	Fabio	Brazilian Music for Viola Inspired by Popular Music	20 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
80	DE BIAGGI	Emerson	ABRAV Ensemble: Brazilian Music for Viola	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
81	FRIAS	Murilo	Two Violas, One Brazil	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
83	ALEIXO DOS REIS	Carlos	Brazilian Composers from Minas Gerais: Works for Viola and Piano	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
84	CAPPARELLI GERLING	Daphne	The Viola Works of Marcelle Soulage: Exploring Her Masterpieces and Legacy	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
85	FRANK	Hella	The role of teachers in fostering student autonomy, also known as self-regulated learning	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
87	JONES	Matthew	French Premieres of rarely performed Solo Viola Gems by Per Nørgård and Hilary Tann	20 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
88	LANSDOWN	Louise	The British Viola Ensemble: Bowen, Dale, Beamish, Werner, Jacob, Bridge, Knox, Ireland and Benjamin.	20 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
89	SILVERTHORNE	Paul	Brahms Sonatas Op. 120 — Revelations from the Manuscript	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
90	STOKES	Dominic	Tessellatum — ambient music for short attention spans.	20 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
92	TAPPER	Ilana	Creating An Accessible Future for the Viola	20 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
93	KLORMAN	Edward	Rethinking Bach's Cello Suites	19 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
94	ASHWORTH	Leslie	Chamber Music Pedagogy Across Borders: Insights from the U.S. and Canada	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
95	Hiemstra	Emily	On Cultivating A Climate for New Music	19 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
96	HOOD	Joanna	Northwest Passage, Thirteen Climate Alarms From the Arctic, for thirteen violas	21 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
97	ROY	Viateur	What to Consider When It's Time to Choose a Viola	19 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
98	VIS	Ryan	Canadian Landscapes: A Multimedia Journey for Solo, Duo, and Trio Viola.	21 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
99	WEI	Sharon	Sounding Tornadoes	21 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
100	YE	Zi	A fusion of East and West: Marco Polo Suite for Viola, Erhu and Orchestra	21 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
101	RUBIANO PULIDO	Maria Fernanda	The Rhythm of New Life: Two Works for Amplified Viola and Electronics by Stephen Andrew Taylor	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
102	JEREZ	Astrid	Viola in colors: "Strengthening Classical Technique through Latin American Rhythms" — Exploring Latin American Rhythms through Viola Ensemble	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
103	FORERO VILLAMIZAR	Gabriel Mateo	The First Complete Transcription for Viola and Basso Continuo of the Mystery (Rosary) Sonatas by J.H.F. Biber	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
104	ALFRED	Joseph	The Viola and the Maqam: A Practical Introduction to Middle Eastern Performance Techniques	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
107	BERCOVICH	Cecilia	Contemporary Spanish Viola	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
109	FUEYO MUÑIZ	Maria José	Rediscovering spanish classical and romantic music written for viola	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
110	NEPOROZHNYA OSNACH	Iryna	Eira Duo — The Viola as a Voice for Modern Women Composers	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas

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112	VELO QUINTAIROS	Santiago	El libro de las nubes (The Book of Clouds)	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
113	STUMM	Jennifer	Sound-Inspired Technique: Creative Methods for Training Young Violists	19 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
114	MICHAEL	Julie	Portmanteau	19 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
115	REZA SABZGHABAEI	Daniel	The Persian Viola – A Recital of Viola Music from the Iranian Diaspora	19 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
116	HAMALAINEN	Lauri	Scale Duets for Viola	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
117	WESSMAN	Harri	Presentation of Ellen's Viola Album for Young Violists	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
118	BÉRANGER	Vinciane	Composers Manuscripts as a Resource for Interpretation: Rebecca Clarke's Sonata for Viola and Piano	20 January	CRR de Paris	Fauré
119	BERNARD	Jean-Christophe	The Solo Viola Repertoire up to 1795: From Artistic Issues to Pedagogical Tools	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
120	CALOUSTIAN	Anne	L'Arbre qui chantait: le monde	21 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
121	CALOUSTIAN	Anne	Le corps... ce diapason	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
121	CALOUSTIAN	Anne	Le corps... ce diapason	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
125	GARNET	Eva	The development of a musical and poetic language through the music of Pierre Boulez and the poetry of Yves Bonnefoy	19 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
126	ISOARD	Nitya	Paul Hindemith and his Work	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
128	KEAY	Nigel	Memory and Invention: Trowell's Sonata dedicated to Tertis (& the music of Nigel Keay)	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
131	LAINÉ	Frédéric	Viola Players in France from Casimir-Ney to Théophile Laforge (1850–1918): Portraits, Lineage, and Legacy.	20 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
132	LE FAURE	Antonin	Viola Echoes on the Shores of Lake Geneva	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
133	LENERT	Pierre	Paganini Caprices by Pierre Lenert	21 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
134	LEROY	Guillaume	Constellations: A Journey with the Viola	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
135	LETHIEC	Karine	Contemporary French Solo Viola (2021-2025)	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
137	MOHAMED	Sindy	Farasha	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
138	PERRIER	Lomane	What repertoire for the Baroque viola ?	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
139	PUNGIER	Angèle	King Arthur	21 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
143	REITER	Emmanuella	Karen Tuttle: The Legacy of Coordination	20 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
145	XUEREB	Pierre-Henri	Connections between the Viola d'Amore and the Viola Through the Centuries	23 January	Opera Bastille	Studio
148	ZAKOWSKY	Laurent	Must One Suffer to Be a Violist?	19 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
149	ZEKRI	Yona	Exile and Memory: The Viola as a Voice for Women Composers	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
150	OUSSAAD	Nadine	Plural Approaches to Viola Practice through Contemporary Arab and Eastern Music	19 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
154	PERALTA	Lucia	Fleurs et autres objets sonores	19 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
155	VAN SASSE VAN YSSELT	Sylvén	IVS presents: International Viola Society Iuventus	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
158	POLIAK	Nethanel	The Viola Behind the Iron Curtain: Unknown Original Viola Works from the Soviet Era	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
159	POLIAK	Nethanel	From Crane Step to Butterfly Palm: Integrating Qigong into Viola Playing by Practicing HeidiCastleman's 'Strings with Qigong'	20 January	CNSAD	Girod
160	BARALDI	Giulio	The genesis of Max Bruch's Romance op. 85	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
162	CARDINALI	Federica	M. Anzoletti (1867-1929), Seven compositions, for viola and piano	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
165	RUISI	Simona	Opera(s) fo(u)r Viola(s)	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
166	SANZO	Luca	Violal Viola!!	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
167	SOLARE	Carlos María	The viola d'amore at the Belle Époque: Renaissance or Continuity?	23 January	Opera Bastille	Studio
168	TORO	Alessio	Luciano Berio: Sicilian Folk Songs	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
169	VISMARA	Dorothea	Enriching an entire viola studio through empowering international students	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
172	TROMBETTA	Luca	The Humor of Harold in Italy: Navigating Comic Irony from Score to Stage	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium

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173	MANFIO	LUIS CLAUDIO	Viola making - classic schools, models, sound, challenges for luthiers in the past and now	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
174	SYRRIST-GELGOTA	Povilas	"Troubadour" - New Norwegian Folk Romantic Music by Singing Violist Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'orgue
175	SYRRIST-GELGOTA	Povilas	Stage communication	19 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
176	SYRRIST-GELGOTA	Povilas	The Musical World of Singing Violist and Composer Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota	19 January	CRR de Paris	Auditorium
177	FILMER	Andrew	Proudly Loaned: The Viola and Musical Borrowings	19 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
178	MEZA PEREZ	Amayur Jamir	Reconstructing and Modeling a 41 cm Viola in the Style of Nicolas Lupot	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
179	DIMANDE	Blandina	From Mozambique to the World: Stories of a Classical Music Journey	19 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
180	DOLMAN	Karin	Raiders of the The Lost Tone - An epic hunt through 50 Years of congresses	23 January	Opera Bastille	Amphithéâtre
182	ECKELS	Lena	French-German Partner Concert	20 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
183	JURRIANSE	Anna	The Composers in my life	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
184	PELSER	Yanna	Resonanzlehre - Sound/Body practice for violists	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
185	PELSER	Yanna	Singing Violist	20 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
186	VAN OS	Roald	Introducing the Historical Viola & Society (HVS)	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
187	VAN SASSE VAN YSSELT	Sylvén	Traditional Javanese Gamelan Sounds on the Contemporary Viola	19 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
189	GOLDSTEIN	Elias	Celebrating Franco-Romanian Friendship	21 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
190	STAM	Emlyn	Ma vie en couleurs	22 January	CNSMDP	Salle d'Orgue
191	STAM	Emlyn	Paradise Lost, Voices Rising: Music and Poetry from Ukraine and Taiwan	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
192	BALABAN	Lech	Viola dedications - solo, duo, trio and quartet	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
194	BATOG	Aleksandra	How fascinating is violist's life with flute and harp - or piano. 30 years of playing with friends.	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
195	HUBISZ-SIELSKA	Bogusława	Farewell	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
196	KOLACZYK	Wojciech	Poland meet Chile	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
197	KOMENDAREK-TYMENDORF	Krzysztof	VIOLAND - Polish heritage for viola solo and electronics	21 January	CMA 9	Auditorium
198	MURAWSKI	Marcin	Wojciech Gawroński - forgotten Polish romantic	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Dukas
199	MURAWSKI	Marcin	J.S. Bach - Toccata and Fugue in D BWV 565 - an original piece for viola solo?	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Vinteuil
200	WOJDAŁSKA	Kinga	Polish music for solo viola	19 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
201	FRENDIN	Henrik	Sandhamn – Suite for electric violas, electronics and moving images	20 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
202	HSU	Shu-Ching	Tides of Memory: Music Echoing Taiwan's Historical Silence	21 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
203	AKANSU	Nehir	Improvioia Jazz	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
205	ALTINEL	Fusun Naz	Women in Turkish Music for Viola	19 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
206	TIKNAZ MODIRI, BAHAR	BESTE, BARIS KEREM	2 Turkish Violists in Paris	19 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
207	MELENDEZ	Melissa	Dialogues in Timbre: Meléndez and Pool - Viola and Bassoon Duet	22 January	CNSMDP	Salon Ravel
208	RIEBL	Thomas	Thomas Riebl recital on his five string tenor viola	19 January	CNSAD	Théâtre
209	BOOTHROYD	Austin	ViolaViva's New Educational Catalogue	20 January	CNSAD	Bouquet
210	SACHSE	Pauline	Viola journey through space and time	21 January	CNSAD	Jouvet
211	RODLAND	Carol	A Holistic Daily Warm-Up Routine for the Healthy and Happy Violist	21 January	CNSMDP	Vinteuil

Places	CNSAD		
Rooms	THÉÂTRE	JOUVET	BOUQUET
08 : 30 - 10 : 00	WELCOME		
10 : 00 - 11 : 00			
11 : 00 - 12 : 00		VIOLA ORCHESTRA	
LUNCH			
13 : 00 - 14 : 00	ARABIAN TALES	MUSIC BY WOMEN	TRADITIONAL PEDAGOGY
14 : 00 - 15 : 00			
BREAK			
15 : 30 - 16 : 30	GERMAN MUSIC	WESTERN MUSIC	LUTHERIE
16 : 30 - 17 : 30		AFRICA	GÉRARD CAUSSÉ/ PHILIPPE HERSANT MASTERCLASS
17 : 30 - 18 : 30		YOUNG EMERGING FRENCH VIOLISTS	
DINNER			
20 : 30	LAWRENCE POWER RECITAL		

Places	CRR de Paris - Ida Rubinstein	CMA 9
Rooms	AUDITORIUM	AUDITORIUM
08:30 - 10:00		
10:00 - 11:00		
11:00 - 12:00		
LUNCH		
13:00 - 14:00	WESTERN MUSIC	ELECTRONIC
14:00 - 15:00		ASIAN MUSIC
BREAK		
15:30 - 16:30	INNOVATION	CONTEMPORARY CREATION
16:30 - 17:30		
17:30 - 18:30		
DINNER		

20th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

Places	CNSAD			
Rooms	THÉÂTRE	JOUVET	BOUQUET	GIROD
09:00 - 10:00		KAREN TUTTLE ROUND TABLE		
10:00 - 11:00			TRADITIONAL PEDAGOGY	
11:00 - 12:00		LEMOINE SHOWCASE		
LUNCH				
13:00 - 14:00		JOINT STUDENT CONCERT	TRADITIONAL PEDAGOGY & VIOLAVIVA	
14:00 - 15:00	IVS & PIANO TRIO & TRADITIONAL MUSIC	LAWRENCE POWER MASTERCLASS		
BREAK			BREAK	
15:30 - 16:30	IVS ROUND TABLE		LUTHERIE	RELAXATION
16:30 - 17:30	TRIBUTE TO PATRICK ROBIN			
17:30 - 18:30		HISTORY - LATE 19TH CENTURY	INNOVATION	
DINNER				
20:30	ELECTRONIC			

Places	CRR de Paris - Ida Rubinstein		CMA 9	THÉÂTRE DES CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES
Rooms	AUDITORIUM	FAURÉ	AUDITORIUM	
09:00 - 10:00				
10:00 - 11:00	BRITISH MUSIC		VIOLA ORCHESTRA	
11:00 - 12:00	BRITISH MUSIC	MUSIC BY WOMEN	FORGOTTEN ROMANTIC REPERTOIRE	
LUNCH				
13:00 - 14:00	BRITISH MUSIC	MUSIC BY WOMEN	GERMAN MUSIC	
14:00 - 15:00			MUSIC & HISTORY	
BREAK				
15:30 - 16:30		MUSIC BY WOMEN	WESTERN MUSIC	
16:30 - 17:30		JENNIFER STUMM MASTERCLASS		
17:30 - 18:30			FRENCH MUSIC	
DINNER				
20:00				TABEA ZIMMERMANN CONCERT

21th January

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Places	CNSAD		
Rooms	THÉÂTRE	JOUVET	BOUQUET
09:00 - 10:00	GENERAL REHEARSAL GNOX/ POWER		RELAXATION
10:00 - 11:00		TABEA ZIMMERMANN MASTERCLASS	
11:00 - 12:00			PEDAGOGY & INNOVATION
12:00 - 13:00			
LUNCH			
14:00 - 15:00	PEDAGOGICAL DAY	THE PAGANINI CAPRICES PROJECT	BAROQUE & ROMANTIC TRANSCRIPTIONS
15:00 - 16:00		LIFE IN THE STRING QUARTET	
16:00 - 17:00		LEIPZIG	PEDAGOGY & INNOVATION
BREAK			
17:30 - 19:00	GNOX/POWER/ KASHKASHIAN	MUSIC AND TALES	
DINNER			
20:30	TATJANA MASURENKO RECITAL		

Places	CNSMDP			CMA 9
Rooms	VINTEUIL	DUKAS	RAVEL	AUDITORIUM
09:00 - 10:00				
10:00 - 11:00	KIM KASHKASHIAN MASTERCLASS	VIOLA ORCHESTRA		
11:00 - 12:00		WESTERN MUSIC	TRADITIONNAL PEDAGOGY	
12:00 - 13:00		FORGOTTEN REPERTOIRE	ENGAGED MUSIC	
LUNCH				
14:00 - 15:00	CNSMDP INSTRUMENT COLLECTION	WESTERN & AFRICAN MUSIC	MUSIC FROM EASTERN EUROPE	ELECTRONIC
15:00 - 16:00	HEALTH AND WELLNESS	AMERICAN MUSIC		
16:00 - 17:00				CLIMATE

Places	CNSMDP		
Rooms	SALLE D'ORGUE	VINTEUIL	DUKAS
09:00 - 10:00		RELAXATION	
10:00 - 11:00	PRESENTATION VS	TRANSCRIPTION & ARRANGEMENTS	TIMOTHY RIDOUT MASTERCLASS
11:00 - 12:00	TRADITIONAL MUSIC		
LUNCH			
13:00 - 14:00	AFRICAN WORLD MUSIC	HISTORY	WOMEN COMPOSERS
14:00 - 15:00		FORGOTTEN REPERTOIRE	
BREAK			
15:30 - 16:30	WESTERN MUSIC	HISTORY & TRANSCRIPTIONS	EAST FORGOTTEN REPERTOIRE
16:30 - 17:30		OPERA FANTASY	MUSIC BY WOMEN
17:30 - 18:30	VIOLA ENSEMBLE CNSMDP		
DINNER			

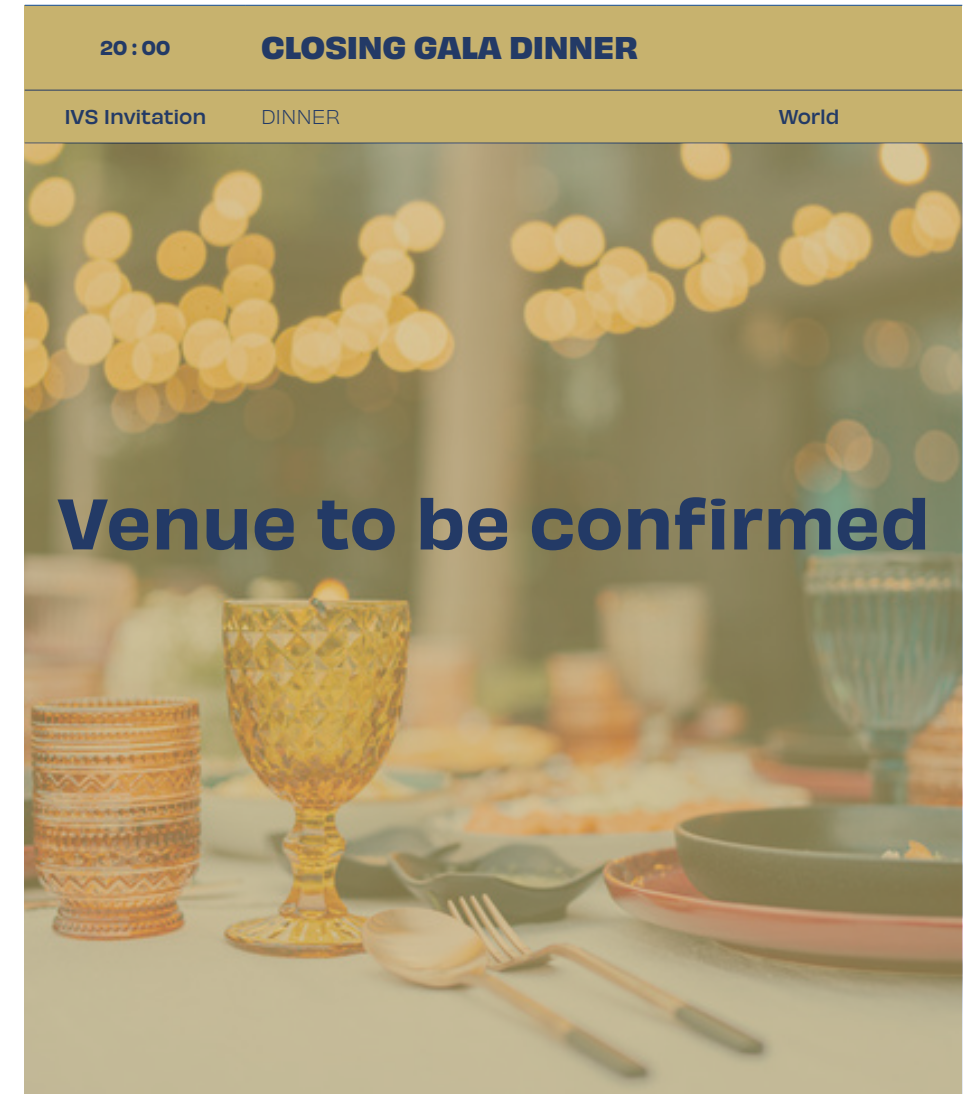
Places	CNSMDP		CNSAD	CMA 9
Rooms	RAVEL	PLATEAU 5	THÉÂTRE	AUDITORIUM
09:00 - 10:00	PAULINE SACHSE MASTERCLASS		IVS GENERAL ASSEMBLY	
10:00 - 11:00		VIOLA ORCHESTRA		
11:00 - 12:00				
LUNCH				
13:00 - 14:00	GERMAN COMPOSERS			JUTTA PUCHHAMMER MASTERCLASS
14:00 - 15:00	AMERICAN MUSIC			
BREAK				
15:30 - 16:30	SUD AMERICAN MUSIC		GARTH KNOX MASTERCLASS	LENA ECKELS MASTERCLASS
16:30 - 17:30	TRANSCRIPTIONS & ARRANHEMENTS			
17:30 - 18:30				
DINNER				
20:30			KIM KASHKASHIAN RECITAL	

23th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

Place	OPÉRA NATIONAL DE PARIS BASTILLE	
Rooms	AMPHITHÉÂTRE	STUDIO
09 : 00 - 10 : 00	BILLAUDOT SHOWCASE	
10 : 00 - 11 : 00	JOHN STULZ MASTERCLASS ON CONTEMPORY REPERTOIRE	CAROL RODLAND MASTERCLASS
11 : 00 - 12 : 00		
LUNCH	LUNCH	
13 : 00 - 14 : 00	HISTORY & VIOLA D'AMORE	
14 : 00 - 15 : 00	AMERICAN MUSIC	
BREAK		
15 : 30 - 17 : 00	IVS PROJECT VIOLA ORCHESTRA	
BREAK		
17 : 30	JENNIFER STUMM & ILUMINA CLOSING CONCERT	



Venue to be confirmed

19th January

19.01

08 : 30 - 10 : 30 WELCOME

IVS Project FRENCH BREAKFAST

A traditional French breakfast will be offered on the first morning to welcome the participants.

IVS Project PARTICIPANTS' WELCOME

A warm welcome awaits all participants upon arrival in Paris!

Our team will be on hand to assist with registration, provide information about the venues and schedule, and answer any practical questions. It's also a great opportunity to meet fellow musicians and start the congress in a friendly atmosphere.

IVS Project WELCOME RECITAL

Welcome Viola Ensemble

The Congress opens in music with a special performance by the viola ensemble formed by the organizing team and staff members. This welcoming concert offers a joyful and symbolic moment to greet participants from around the world and to launch a week of celebration dedicated to the viola.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 LUNCH

13 : 00 - 15 : 00 ARABIAN TALES

Project 150 RECITAL RECITAL France/Algeria

Plural Approaches to Viola Practice through Contemporary Arab and Eastern Music

Nadine Oussaad, John Stulz, violas
Yannis Loussikoulou, Oud
Steven Downing, percussions

Kareem Roustom (2023) — Reflections & Refractions, for viola duet
Traditional Algerian music, Mediterranean Music and Arabic Music
Improvisations

Based on a lecture-recital exploring the multiple pedagogical approaches of the Western classical viola and the Mediterranean, Arab, and Eastern viola, the musicians of the MENAT Modern Music Ensemble (founded by Nadine Oussaad in 2025) will present a musical program highlighting the multicultural dimension of the viola repertoire in today's music: contemporary Mediterranean Arab-Oriental music.

Project 206 RECITAL Turkey

2 Turkish Violists in Paris

Baris Kerem Bahar, viola
Beste Tknaz Modiri, viola
Evrin Demirel, piano

Ortaç Aydınoğlu — A dos Altistas, (*Europe Premier) 2025
Ortaç Aydınoğlu — Rhapsody, 2025 *World premiere
Evrin Demirel — 2025 *World premiere
Melisa Uzunarslan — Sacred equilibrium, 2025 *World premiere
Recep Gül — Twilight and Dance (*Europe Premier) 2025

This project is to support new repertoire for 2 violas and extend the culture of viola music by Turkish composers. The Concert Program includes a new repertoire for 2 violas composed by Turkish composers of the 21st century. All pieces are composed for Baris Kerem Bahar and Beste Tknaz Modiri who have been playing together for more than a decade, Premiered many pieces written for them and also Starters of Turkish Viola Society. In this concert there will be a World Premiere of 3 Composers.

Project 115 LECTURE RECITAL Iran/US

The Persian Viola – A Recital of Viola Music from the Iranian Diaspora

Daniel Reza Sabzghabaei, composer
Daphne Gerling, viola & voice
Wendy Richman, viola & voice

Daniel Reza Sabzghabaei — ...under the blue of my land (2019)
—setting a poem by an anonymous Persian woman
Golfam Khayyam — Roya Ritornellos (2018) [excerpts]
Bahar Royaei — Tombstone [excerpts] (2021)
—based on poetry by Yadollah Royaei
Reza Vali — Calligraphy No. 5 (2005)
Alireza Khodayari — Belonging (2025)
—setting parts of a poem by Mehdi Akhavan-Sales

Composer Daniel Reza Sabzghabaei will partner with violist/vocalists Daphne Gerling (University of North Texas) and Wendy Richman (University of California, Los Angeles) to explore viola works by composers of Iranian heritage across the stylistic spectrum. Sabzghabaei will give an introduction and overview to the repertoire, which will be followed by performances of various works and excerpts from a curated set of composers from the Iranian diaspora. Before each work, a short video from each composer will be shown that will connect attendees directly with the creators, giving small glimpses into the background of each piece and artist on the program.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30 BREAK

15 : 30 - 17 : 30 GERMAN MUSIC

Project 93 LECTURE USA

Rethinking Bach's Cello Suites

Edward Klorman, musicologist and viola professor

Although the Bach Cello Suites are central to the training repertoire of the viola, much misleading information about them continues to circulate, and many basic questions resist straightforward answers. Edward Klorman, violist, musicologist, and author of the New Cambridge Music Handbook entitled Bach: The Cello Suites, will share the latest scholarly discoveries about how and why Bach composed the suites, about the manuscript sources, and about the earliest performances on both cello and viola.

Project 208 RECITAL Austria

Thomas Riebl recital on his five string tenor viola

Thomas Riebl, five string tenor viola
N.N, piano

G. Knox — Toccata pour Thomas
J. S. Bach — sa version pour luth de sa 5e suite pour violoncelle, BWV 995
F. Schubert — Sonate Arpeggione

Thomas Riebl will perform this programme on his five string tenor viola, made by luthier Bernd Hiller. The pieces by G.Knox and J.S.Bach (g minor) will be played in the tuning G - c - g - d - g, enabling the performer to play all the five voiced cords in this wonderful version of the fifth cello suite. For the Arpeggione sonata the tuning will be E - c - g - d - a. As the low E is the bass note of the arpeggione, the sonata can be performed as written by Schubert, without need of escaping into the wrong octave many times.

17 : 30 - 18 : 30 YOUNG EMERGING FRENCH VIOLISTS

IVS Project RECITAL France

Program

This concert highlights the new generation of French violists, reflecting the vitality and renewal of the French viola school. Talented young performers from conservatories and higher music institutions will present a varied program showcasing the richness and diversity of the viola repertoire, balancing tradition and modernity.

18 : 30 DINNER

20 : 30 LAWRENCE POWER

IVS Invitation RECITAL United Kingdom

Lawrence Power, viola
Simon Crawford Phillips, piano

Dmitri Shostakovich
Suite from Gadfly, Op.97 (arr. Borisovsky)

Henry Purcell
Full fathom five from The Tempest arr.
Thomas Adès

Thomas Adès
Berceuse No. 2

Benjamin Britten
Waltz Op. 6 (arr. Vial)

Mark-Anthony Turnage
'Powerplay'

INTERVAL

Hector Berlioz
'Death of Ophelia'

Sergueï Prokofiev
8 Pieces from Romeo and Juliet



10 : 30 - 12 : 00

VIOLA ORCHESTRA

IVS Project

A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

World

Program

A large viola orchestra bringing together amateur and professional musicians from around the world. This collective project embodies the spirit of sharing and togetherness that lies at the heart of the congress, where everyone can take part in the viola's unique sound.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00

LUNCH

13 : 00 - 14 : 30

MUSIC BY WOMEN

Project 200

RECITAL

Poland

Polish music for solo viola

Kinga Wojdalska, viola

Johann Paul von Westhoff (1656–1705) — *Imitazione delle campane* (c. 2)
 Grażyna Bacewicz (1909–1969) — *Sonata No. 2 for Solo Viola* (1949) (c. 12)
 Anna Dobrucka (b. 1989) — *World Premiere* (c. 5)
 Grażyna Bacewicz (1909–1969) — *Four Caprices for Solo Viola* (c. 12)
 Nicola Matteis (c. 1670–1713) — *Passagio Rotto* (c. 2.5)
 Grażyna Bacewicz (1909–1969) — *Polish Capriccio for Solo Viola* (c. 2.5)

In this recital, Kinga Wojdalska continues her artistic mission to promote Polish music on the international stage. As a Polish violist living and performing abroad, she feels a profound connection to sharing the distinctive musical heritage of her homeland with wider audiences.

The program centers around the music of Grażyna Bacewicz—one of the most remarkable Polish composers of the 20th century—whose solo viola works form the emotional and structural core of the evening. Her bold, virtuosic writing is juxtaposed with the world premiere of a new piece by Anna Dobrucka, representing the vibrant voice of a younger generation of Polish women composers.

Interwoven between these modern Polish works are Baroque interludes by Johann Paul von Westhoff and Nicola Matteis, whose imaginative, improvisatory idioms offer moments of reflection and dialogue across centuries. Through this program, Wojdalska explores the expressive range of the viola—from the resonance of Baroque imitation to the daring modernity of Bacewicz and Dobrucka—revealing the instrument as both timeless and ever-evolving. Closely tied to her debut album dedicated to Bacewicz's solo viola music, this recital is not only an artistic statement but also an act of cultural storytelling: an homage to the creativity, resilience, and voice of Polish women in music.

Project 66

SHARED RECITAL

USA

Forgotten Women Composers: The Music of Francesca Caccini

Dr. Alicia M. Valoti, viola
 Sherry Cheng, piano

Francesca Caccini (1587–1640) — *Lasciatemi qui solo*, arr. Dr. Alicia M. Valoti
 Francesca Caccini (1587–1640) — *Romanesca*, arr. Dr. Alicia M. Valoti

Although a talented composer, musician, and pedagogue, Francesca Caccini (1587–1640) often lived in the shadow of her renowned father, Giulio Caccini. A court musician for the Medici family in Florence, Italy, she composed numerous works and was among the first women to see her music published. Her output spans richly ornamented vocal pieces with explicit notation, instrumental works, and an opera. While most of her compositions are lost, these arrangements of a vocal and baroque piece for viola reflect Caccini's emotional connection to music. The vocal work highlights expressive melody and themes of despair, while the instrumental piece radiates joy and virtuosity.

Project 205

RECITAL

Turkey

Women in Turkish Music for Viola

Füsun Naz Altinel, Viola
 Işıl Giray Uysal, Piano

Melisa Uzunarslan (1985–) — *Sonata for Viola and Piano*

I. Sana
 II. Onlara
 III. Bana
 IV. Hasta

The composition written in 2012 consists of four movements. The aim of the work is for the violin and piano to tell a wordless story together. The movement titles are «bana» (to me), «sana» (to you), «onlara» (to them), and «hasta» (sick), with the composer intending to express the inner struggles she was experiencing at the time. The piece was first performed on February 7, 2013, at the Istanbul Borusan Music House, with the composer herself and pianist Prof. Ayça Aytağ as performers. The recording of the composition for viola and piano was made in 2021 by Prof. Beste Tıknaç Modiri and pianist Andrés Anasco, and it was released by MC Records.

This project, which will be performed at the 50th International Viola Days, features composer lecturer Dr. Melisa Uzunarslan, viola artist Assoc. Prof. Dr. Füsun Naz Altinel, and pianist lecturer Dr. Işıl Giray Uysal, all of whom currently live in Turkey, continue their academic and musical careers.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30

BREAK

15 : 30 - 16 : 30

WESTERN MUSIC

Project 154

LECTURE RECITAL

France/Colombia

Fleurs et autres objets sonores

Lucia Peralta, viola
Nicolas Fromonteil, Axelle Varron, Maud Guillou, CNSMDP viola students

Béla Bartók — duos for two violas
Luciano Berio — duos for two violas
Hanze Liu — Leçon de vol for two violas, world premiere
Kaija Saariaho — Danse des Flocons - Botanique, world premiere of the version for two violas
Yuhang Li — New work for two violas, world premiere
Davide Wang — New work for two violas, world premiere
Garth Knox — Viola Spaces for two violas

Fleurs et autres objets sonores revolves around the world premiere of the viola version of Kaija Saariaho's duos La Danse des Flocons and Botanique, originally composed for violin. It also features three new viola duos by young composers. The duo for two performers playing the same instrument is perhaps one of the most fundamental and most intimate form of chamber music. It has also been used for centuries as a pedagogical tool in instrumental training, notably in the countless method books published for this purpose. In the 20th century, Béla Bartók gave new life to the genre with his 44 Duos for Two Violins, drawing on traditional melodies from Eastern Europe. Since then, many composers have enriched the repertoire in their own ways. Luciano Berio, for instance, turned the form into a space for tribute, to friends, colleagues, and mentors. More recently, Garth Knox has transformed it into a playful sound laboratory, humorously and inventively exploring extended techniques on the viola. The great composer Kaija Saariaho also embraced this format, with an approach that is both intimate and poetic. She wrote several duos for her daughter, violinist Alisa Neige Barrière, when she was a child. La Danse des flocons (2002) was followed by Botanique (2021), published in 2024. This collection brings together four duos, four "flowers", the last of which remained unfinished. Following the project's pedagogical spirit, I've invited students from the Conservatoire de Paris - CNSMDP to take part, both as violists and as composers, to contribute to the ongoing life of this repertoire.

Special thanks to : Jean-Baptiste Barrière and the Saariaho Estate, CNSMDP, Stefano Gervasoni

Project 39

SHARED RECITAL

USA

A Marriage of Musical Worlds: A Performance of Jamie Leigh Sampson's Threw and Through and Andrew Martin Smith's My Garden, My World

Andrea Houde, viola

Andrew Martin Smith (b. 1984) — My Garden...My World for solo viola (2019)
Jamie Leigh Sampson (b. 1984) — Threw and Through (2022)
I. Flight
II. Collisions
III. Mantras
IV. Brush

This concert offers the rare opportunity to hear recent solo viola works by a married composer duo. Each piece features advanced techniques that explore the full range of the instrument's color and capabilities, while providing listeners with a unique glimpse into the composers' inner worlds and personalities.

16 : 30 - 17 : 30

AFRICA

Project 179

LECTURE

Mozambique

From Mozambique to the World: Stories of a Classical Music Journey

Blandina Dimande, viola
Inérzio Macome, cello

Ntlangano (meeting) — Estevão Chissano (Mozambique, 1994-)

This presentation highlights the history of classical music in Mozambique after the country's independence from Portuguese colonial rule in 1975, from the first generation of students trained in the Soviet Union to today's growing community of professional musicians. It explores the challenges and achievements of building a young tradition—from the creation of institutions and projects to the emergence of international careers. These experiences reflect the journey of a new generation of Mozambican musicians. The session concludes with the performance of a new work for viola and cello by Estevão Chissano, performed jointly with Inérzio Macome, offering a glimpse into the future of Mozambican classical music. The work is titled "Ntlangano" translates to «meeting» in Changana, one of the languages spoken in Mozambique. The title expresses not only the character of this event, but also the dialogue between two traditions: the European, through its instruments and writing, and the African, through the use of the local language, rhythmic particularities and other typical effects. The other aspect is the need to find ourselves in great ideals, transcending our political/ideological differences — which often result in discrimination, violence, and even war — in pursuit of the essential: the well-being and dignity of human beings and the world.



13:00 - 15:00 TRADITIONAL PEDAGOGY

Project 67 LECTURE RECITAL USA

Building Community and Ensemble Skills through the Viola Ensemble

Java Jane Henager, Aurimar Hernandez, Carlos Rada, Angel Rosario, Eva Ruiz, Anderson Vallecillo, Summer Wojtozack, violas
Katrin Meidell, Artistic Director

Works by Astor Piazzolla, Ian Gammie, and, Kenneth Harding

In most conservatories, violists spend much of their time practicing alone—working on solo repertoire, orchestral excerpts, or inner voices in quartets and chamber groups. While essential, these experiences often limit opportunities for community and shared artistic growth. This presentation highlights the pedagogical and interpersonal benefits of viola ensembles within studio programs. At a U.S. conservatory, students rehearse and perform regularly in a dedicated viola ensemble, exploring repertoire from historical transcriptions to original and newly commissioned works. Such collaboration fosters camaraderie, mutual support, and musical growth. The ensemble model accommodates varying skill levels, allowing beginners to participate while offering advanced players challenging roles. Musically, ensemble work enhances balance, blend, phrasing, and unified tone—skills directly transferable to orchestral and chamber performance. Selected students will perform and reflect on how ensemble playing has shaped their musicianship, confidence, and studio community. Viola ensembles cultivate both technical mastery and social connection, preparing students for collaborative professional careers.

Project 42 RECITAL USA

Eclectic Viola Quartets for Various Levels

Linda Kline, viola
KeAndra Harris, viola
Emily Jones, viola
Allen Skirvin, viola

Max von Weinzierl (1841–1898) — Nachtstück, Op. 34 for 4 violas
Claude Le Jeune (1528–1600), arr. Kline — Fantasia I
Kenji Bunch (b. 1973) — Rise (and Shine) for Viola Quartet
Alessandro Rolla (1757–1841), arr. Kline — Divertissement in FM, BI 330
Freddie Mercury (1946–1991), Queen, arr. Queen Music Ltd. — Bohemian Rhapsody

This session explores the unique and underused viola quartet as a platform for accessible, engaging, and cross-disciplinary chamber music. Designed for teachers, performers, and students, it presents a selection of original and arranged works suitable for beginner to advanced levels. Emphasis is placed on a transhistorical repertoire blending classical and popular styles, from Renaissance music to Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody. The session includes live performances of five short works by Le Jeune, Rolla, Weinzierl, Queen, and Bunch. Highlighting the quartet's versatility and rich sonic potential, the presentation aims to inspire new directions in viola pedagogy and performance, promote group learning at all levels, and expand the literature for this distinctive ensemble.

Project I2 WORKSHOP USA

Beyond Suzuki: Pop and Inclusivity in the Beginner Viola Studio

Johanna Beaver, presenter
Greg Thomas, co-arranger

Introduction
The Problem — What's Missing?
The Solution — Connection
Performance of 5 Short Pop Arrangements
Teaching Strategies and Alignment with Established Methods
Resources and Ideas for teachers seeking fresh, student-centered material
Brief Audience Survey

Today's young violists crave music that reflects their world. This session presents beginner viola-friendly pop, jazz, and contemporary arrangements by women and underrepresented composers, each tied to a clear technical goal. Modeled on the Suzuki Book I sequence, these pieces complement traditional methods with inclusive, engaging repertoire. Attendees will hear sample works, learn teaching strategies, and explore how relevant, joyful music can inspire practice and build skills.

15:00 - 15:30 BREAK

15 : 30 - 16 : 30

LUTHERIE

Project 97

LECTURE

Canada

What to Consider When It's Time to Choose a Viola

Viateur Roy, luthier

Selecting or purchasing a viola, whether new or antique, raises many questions about size, model, and playability — factors that can vary widely. This lecture will guide students and musicians through these considerations, offering practical insights for making an informed choice. Topics include body length relative to string length, neck length, width measurements, shoulder shapes, and how these features impact comfort in higher positions. Differences in Italian craftsmanship, such as Cremonese versus Brescian designs, will also be discussed, including how bridge placement affects playability. The session may feature input from a luthier or fellow musician, providing firsthand perspectives. Overall, the lecture aims to equip performers with the knowledge to understand why some violas feel more comfortable than others and how to choose an instrument suited to their technique and physique.

Project 148

LECTURE

France

Must One Suffer to Be a Violist?

Laurent Zakowsky, viola maker
Coralie Cousin, physiotherapist

Until quite recently, the viola was used mainly as an accompanying instrument, not requiring the kind of virtuosity expected of the violin. Over the past few decades, however, its repertoire, technique, and the level of violists have risen considerably, now demanding performances comparable to those of violinists. Yet, because of its size and length, the viola creates non-optimal biomechanical conditions, leading to muscular tension and overuse injuries. When persistent, these musculoskeletal issues often result in injury. This physical handicap also carries psychological and artistic consequences. Within the classical music world, disability remains a taboo—partly due to the Romantic-era cult of pain and sacrifice, where complaining was frowned upon. Furthermore, the orchestra is a collective in which showing weakness can be perceived as resignation or even betrayal. Added to this is the professional rivalry among musicians, making it risky to admit to a handicap.

Coralie Cousin, a physiotherapist specializing in musicians (especially violists), and Laurent Zakowsky, a viola maker, draw on their research and experience to propose solutions for improving violists' health—through better posture and body use as well as through technical innovation toward a lighter instrument.

16 : 30 - 17 : 30

GÉRARD CAUSSÉ PHILIPPE HERSANT

IVS Invitation

LECTURE / MASTERCLASS

France

Program

A privileged moment of exchange, transmission, and artistic creation, this masterclass brings together violist Gérard Causse and composer Philippe Hersant. Students are offered a rare opportunity to work at the crossroads of interpretation and contemporary composition. Guided by these two exceptional figures, participants refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore the living and evolving repertoire of today's viola. This session invites each musician to engage directly with creation, breathe life into new works, and carry forward the contemporary voice of the instrument.



13 : 00 - 15 : 00

WESTERN MUSIC

Project 125

LECTURE

France

The development of a musical and poetic language through the music of Pierre Boulez and the poetry of Yves Bonnefoy

Eva Garnet, viola
Matheus Da Souza, RIM
Teresa Machado, actor

Pierre Boulez (1997) — Anthèmes 2

The challenge of combining contemporary music and poetry is a concern widely shared by many artists, thinkers, and musicologists. Pierre Boulez is among the composers whose affinities with the literary world are particularly pronounced, both through his sources of inspiration and his encounters, as well as through works directly influenced by the poetry of the late 19th and 20th centuries. The uniqueness of the book *Quêtes d'absolus* lies in its dialogue between three artists: Yves Bonnefoy, Pierre Boulez, and Carol Bernier. The book offers insights into their respective approaches, as well as the influence of Boulez's and Bonnefoy's works on Bernier's visual art. This new artistic object, born from a sensitive reception of Boulez's and Bonnefoy's work, prompted me to reflect on my own sensibility as a performer of Boulez's music and a reader of Bonnefoy's poetry. Researching and understanding their respective languages, as well as their possible aesthetic affinities, forms the foundation of my interpretation of *Anthèmes II* for viola and electronics, in dialogue with *Menaces du témoin*.

Project 13

LECTURE RECITAL

USA

The Voice of the Viola: Betsy Jolas's Works for Viola

Andrew Braddock, viola

Betsy Jolas (b. 1926)
Quatre Duos for viola and piano (1979)
Épisode Sixieme for solo viola (1984)

French composer Betsy Jolas (b. 1926) has created a fascinating body of work for the viola, combining Messiaen-like expressivity and Boulezian complexity with her own lyrical voice. Though she once described herself as "marginal," Jolas is now regarded as a major French woman composer whose music defies simple classification.

This lecture recital explores her style through two works: *Quatre Duos* for viola and piano (1979), and *Épisode Sixieme* for solo viola (1984). Central themes include her rich lyricism, flexible rhythmic approach, and varied timbral palette. Her French/American background, early ties with major modernists, and collaboration with violist Serge Collot also inform her music.

Quatre Duos presents expressive portraits of women, allowing the viola to reveal subtle, fresh sounds throughout its twelve-minute span. *Épisode Sixieme* is essentially a vocal work for viola, with lyricism threading through capricious gestures and shifting timbres. In both, Jolas balances melody with inventive rhythms and textures.

Both works have been recorded and are available online. By performing and discussing these pieces, this recital aims to highlight Jolas's unique writing for the viola—lyrical, elusive, and imaginative—and to encourage greater recognition of her trailblazing artistry.

Project 114

RECITAL

USA

Portmanteau

Julie Michael, violist and composer

Portmanteau

1. A word blending the sounds and combining the meanings of two other words, for example, spork [spoon + fork] or Spanglish [Spanish + English].
2. A concert for solo viola, exploring the use of household objects on the instrument: knitting needles, clothespins, rubber bands, thimbles – these simple objects transform the viola into a hybrid entity capable of new sounds and gestures.

In *Portmanteau*, violist and composer Julie Michael explores prepared viola, augmenting the instrument with ordinary objects. It began with absurd chance encounters between items in her home: the viola – a precious instrument, a thing of beauty in its own right – and a knitting needle – a humble tool for humble work, a means to an end. In addition to showcasing astonishing sounds – from ear-tickling textures to gong-like resonance – the concert shines unexpected light on everyday objects and the sounds hidden within, leading to reflections on sensory experience, consumption, and play.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30

BREAK

15 : 30 - 17 : 30

INNOVATION

Project I13

WORKSHOP

USA

Sound-Inspired Technique: Creative Methods for Training Young Violists

Jennifer Stumm, Stephen Upshaw, Marilyn Seelman, violas

Training young violists in both healthy technique and expressive playing from an early age is a particular art. Dr. Marilyn Seelman founded her studio for young violists in Atlanta, USA, over 30 years ago, and has since guided an exceptional number of students toward successful careers worldwide. In a city without a dedicated music school for young musicians, she regularly prepares students to enter the world's top conservatories within just a few years.

Sound-Inspired Technique explores Dr. Seelman's holistic approach to training young violists as complete individuals, combining healthy posture, creative feedback, empathy, and absolute efficiency in teaching students to connect deep listening with physical response. Developing a personal and deeply expressive sound is essential to a violist's training and artistic identity, and this process can — and should — be integrated from the very beginning.

Led by former students Jennifer Stumm, professor at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna and Primrose Competition laureate, and Stephen Upshaw, professor at Trinity Laban in London and at the Lucerne Festival Academy, this lecture-demonstration explores creative methods for training healthy, inspired young violists from the outset, showing how an extraordinary legacy of musical excellence can be built anywhere.



Project I75

WORKSHOP

Lithuania

Stage communication

Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota, speaker

Participants will play compositions of their choice

This workshop, led by violist and chamber musician Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota, focuses on the essential elements of stage communication for solo performers. Drawing on his experience of more than 1,000 concerts, Povilas shares practical tools and strategies to help violists engage their audience from the very first moment on stage and sustain their attention throughout the performance. The session emphasizes how stage presence, program planning, and non-verbal communication can transform a recital into a powerful artistic experience. Objectives include developing a confident stage presence, understanding how body language, eye contact, and timing influence the listener's perception, and exploring the use of pacing and vocal introductions to create narrative flow in a concert program. These skills aim to help solo violists establish a stronger emotional connection with their audience and elevate their performances beyond technique alone.

The structure of the workshop will combine explanation, demonstration, and interactive exercises. Topics include: establishing confidence from the stage entrance; maintaining musical and personal connection through eye contact and physical expression; planning programs that balance intensity and variety; and using pauses, timing, and spoken introductions to guide the audience through the performance.

By the end of the session, participants will take away practical insights into how to make their stage presence more engaging, how to communicate beyond the notes, and how to craft performances that resonate emotionally and remain memorable. This workshop complements the Congress's focus on musical artistry by addressing the often-overlooked dimension of audience communication.

Project I76

RECITAL

Lithuania

The Musical World of Singing Violist and Composer Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota

Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota, viola
Sherry Grant, piano

Composition by Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota
Best wishes
Reflections
Vocalise
Peace
Fantasy over Norwegian folk song
4 minutes
First snow

Step into the Music World of Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota, a modern-day troubadour whose singing viola and compositions create a unique blend of folk romantic, ethereal, minimalist, and meditative soundscapes. This richly varied program features original works for viola and singing viola, along with chamber music that reflects Povilas's deep connection to nature, cultural heritage, and personal stories.

Through music and storytelling, Povilas invites audiences on an intimate journey that bridges tradition and contemporary expression, offering a soulful and evocative experience

13 : 00 – 14 : 00

ELECTRONIC

Project 2

RECITAL

South Africa

Myths in the making: Sonic fictions for Viola, Uhadi, and electronics

Jeanne-Louise Moolman, viola
Anthonie Jansen van Rensburg, uhadi, live electronics
Antoni Schonken, voice and found-object instrumentation
Arthur Feder, found-object instrumentation

Program

Myths in the Making presents three new works by South African composers Antoni Schonken, Arthur Feder, and Anthonie Jansen van Rensburg, exploring postmodern mythmaking through viola, uhadi, electronics, found objects and voice. It interrogates identity and memory through sonic ritual and hybrid musicking, reimagining the viola via the cultural and technical sensibilities of the uhadi. The programme challenges inherited structures and offers fragile, transformative futures for performance.



14 : 00 – 15 : 00

ASIAN MUSIC

Exotic Instruments

Project 187

LECTURE RECITAL

Netherlands

Traditional Javanese Gamelan Sounds on the Contemporary Viola

Sylvan van Saspe van Ysselt, viola

Arrangements/adaptations of traditional Javanese gamelan pieces and new repertoire

This lecture recital offers an immersive exploration of traditional Indonesian Gamelan music and its surprising connections to Debussy's compositions. The lecture examines gamelan's distinct tonal systems, layered rhythms, and interlocking textures, illustrating how these techniques inspire new works for the viola. Live examples on the viola, alongside video and audio, introduce the unique sound world of the Javanese gamelan. The presentation highlights gamelan's influence on Western composers, particularly Debussy, whose exposure at the 1889 Paris Exposition led him to prioritize timbre and rhythmic freedom. The recital features new arrangements and adaptations of gamelan pieces for viola ensemble, as well as contemporary compositions that blend layered textures, rhythmic complexity, and Western harmony. Audiences are invited to discover how gamelan continues to inspire today's viola repertoire.

Project 25

LECTURE RECITAL

USA

Laktawan at Tumalon: Filipinx Music for Viola

Daniel Doña, viola
Susie Ibarra, kulintang
Michelle LaCourse, viola
N.N., piano

Nicanor Abelardo (1893-1934) — Mutya ng Pasig (1926) / Cavatina Op. 7 / Romanza Op. 8 / Sonata for Violin and Piano (1931), trans. Doña (II. Andante)
Susie Ibarra (b. 1970) — Pasig River from CHAN: Sonnets and Devotions in the Wilderness (2025) / Fragility Etude for Viola (2021) / Laktawan at Tumalon (2022)

Violist Daniel Doña presents a program featuring repertoire written by Filipinx composers Nicanor Abelardo and 2025 Pulitzer Prize-winner Susie Ibarra. Abelardo is best known for his kundiman, a genre that is best described as Filipino art song and that informed his musical output throughout his life. Susie Ibarra's modern take on kundiman is highlighted in "Pasig River," excerpted from Ibarra's new song cycle, CHAN: Sonnets and Devotions in the Wilderness, commissioned and premiered in Berlin by MaerzMusik Berliner Festspiele and produced with her fellowship in music and sound with the DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst. Originally for voice and viola this program features the premiere of the viola duo version. To highlight musical influences taken from the southern regions of the Philippines the composer will join Doña on the kulintang for Laktawan at Tumalon (Skip and Jump), a piece that recalls the feeling and lightness felt by the young Ibarra, moving from stone to stone across streams in the river systems of Houston bayous.

15 : 00 – 15 : 30

BREAK

19th January

CMA 9 - Conservatoire Municipal Nadia et Lili Boulanger >

15:30 - 16:30

CONTEMPORARY CREATION

Project 177

SHARED RECITAL

Malaysia

Proudly Loaned: The Viola and Musical Borrowings

Andrew Filmer, violin
Benjamin Hoffman, violin
Irene Kim, piano

Wilfred D'Indy (1821-1921) — Piano Trio, op. 15 with viola part transcribed by the composer
Benjamin Britten's proposed anthem for the then newly-formed Federation of Malaysia.
Joel Hoffman's — Derivatives : a violin-piano recital interlude, that borrows notes and rhythms of Schönberg's Phantasy.
Kenneth Tam — creation for viola, violin, and piano, using elements of the Malay percussion instrument kompang.
The Singaporean Malay folk song Di Tanjong Katong, translated to At Cape Katong (place) first arranged by Kelly Tang and rescored by Sulwyn Lok for the viola, violin, and piano.
Malaysian patriotic song Tanah Pusaka translated to Land of Our Heritage, arranged by Andrew Filmer for violin and viola.

The legacy of musical borrowings is a part of our musical heritage, whether it's Bach reinventing his own music, or living composers reinventing music of past giants. This recital celebrates this, in a compilation of works that have been arranged or rearranged to bring the viola into the fold. While Lionel Tertis said that the viola is "Cinderella... no more!", perhaps it is in our past as Cinderella that violists learned the art of transformation and reinvention, so that we, too, could go to the ball.

This performance carries the diversity of genre and national heritage of two Southeast Asian countries, Malaysia and Singapore who were once the same single country when several of these tunes were first heard. It also features a 'lost' proposed Malaysian national anthem composed by Benjamin Britten, a lesser known trio by French composer Wilfred D'Indy, and new music by Hong Kong composer Kenneth Tam. In this recital, Malaysian violist Andrew Filmer is joined by collaborative partners from across three continents.

Project 95

LECTURE RECITAL

Canada

On Cultivating a Climate for New Music

Emily Hiemstra, viola

Robin Haigh (United Kingdom) — Nasubi
Zachary James Ritter (United States) — Just A Moment

This session explores the process of creating a call for scores, from planning to realization. Violist and composer Emily Hiemstra launched a call in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic to promote new music for solo viola when ensemble concerts were impossible. The project resulted in eight new works by composers from around the world, including three Canadian women. Working intensively on these contemporary pieces allowed her to develop skills in marketing, digital creation, fundraising, and advanced performance techniques—insights valuable to violists pursuing post-graduate careers. In the lecture portion, she will share reflections on the challenges, alternative approaches, and benefits of commissioning new works, highlighting how the project fostered new collaborations, musical styles, and opportunities. During the recital, she will perform several of the commissioned pieces, emphasizing the diversity of contemporary styles and giving new life to these works, with particular attention to compositions by women.



20th January

20.01

14:00 - 15:30 IVS PROJECT & PIANO TRIO & TRADITIONAL

Project 76

SHARED RECITAL

Austria-Canada

Sinfonia Concertante: It Doesn't Always Need to Be Mozart! Rediscovery and Renewal of Walter Braunfels' Forgotten Masterwork in the First-Ever Realization of a Piano Reduction

Annette-Barbara Vogel, violin
Jutta Puchhammer-Sédillot, viola
Brett Kingsbury, piano

Walter Braunfels (1882–1954) — Sinfonia Concertante op. 68 for violin, viola, and orchestra (performed with piano)

Adagio — Allegro
Lebhaft
Adagio — Più Presto — Andante
Allegro di molto

This presentation brings to light a powerful yet forgotten work of the viola repertoire: Sinfonia Concertante for Violin, Viola and Orchestra by Walter Braunfels (1882–1954), now accessible through a newly created piano reduction of the full orchestra score, the only available resource. Once suppressed by the Nazis as Entartete Musik, Braunfels' music is now re-emerging as a vital part of the 20th-century musical landscape. This rare double concerto offers a vibrant and expressive role for both the violin and the viola and has long remained outside the standard repertoire due to the political branding. Braunfels' music — lyrical, deeply rooted in late-Romantic language, and richly scored — offers a significant opportunity to re-contextualize his legacy through performance and pedagogy and offers a substantial and dynamic role for the violin – viola duo. This session marks the first performance of a newly commissioned piano reduction of the original orchestral score — a critical new performance and educational resource that makes this large-scale work accessible to a broader community of musicians and institutions. Its late-Romantic idiom and refined contrapuntal writing make it both a joy to perform and a valuable pedagogical tool. This presentation includes a live performance of the concerto with piano reduction, created by Canadian composer and pianist Rashaan Allwood, following extensive work from the original full orchestral score.

Project 61

SHARED RECITAL

Brazil

Music for Violin, Viola, and Piano

Kathryn Steely, viola
Eka Gogichashvili, violin
Kae Hosoda-Ayer, piano

Philipp Scharwenka (1847 – 1917) — Piano Trio in E minor für Klavier, Violine und Viola, Opus 121
I. Andantino tranquillo
III. Finale : allegretto con spirito
Henrique de Curitiba Morozowicz (1934 – 2008) — Trio 93 para Violin, Viola, e Piano
I. Allegro de batuque
II. Lento e Cantabile de Toada
III. Vivace de Xaxado

Chamber works for violin, viola, and piano comprise a relatively small portion of the string chamber music genre. Faculty of the Baylor University School of Music, Dr. Kathryn Steely, Professor Emeritus of Viola; Dr. Eka Gogichashvili, Associate Professor of Violin; and Dr. Kae Hosoda-Ayer, Associate Professor of Piano, are each avid chamber musicians and perform frequently as collaborators across a variety of instrumental combinations. This performance provides a glimpse into a beautiful and diverse repertoire that deserves a more frequent place on the concert stage and will showcase the potential for this combination, reflecting the unique compositional style of each composer.

Project 79

SHARED RECITAL

Brazil

Brazilian Music for Viola Inspired by Popular Music

Fábio Saggin, viola
Cenira Schreiber, piano

Radamés Gnattali (1906–1988) — Sonata for Viola and Piano (I. Allegro - II. Adagio - III. Con Spirito)
César Guerra-Peixe (1914–1993) — Bilhete de um Jorral
Achille Guido Picchi (1952–2024) — Galato

This recital offers a musical journey through Brazil, beginning with Radamés Gnattali's significant Sonata for Viola and Piano. Known for blending classical and popular traditions, Gnattali's sonata reflects this synthesis: the first movement evokes the lively Marchinha de Carnaval, the second combines classical and popular styles in an ABA song-like form reminiscent of urban Brazilian Seresta with touches of French Impressionism, and the final movement is a spirited rondo-sonata with shifting rhythms and the lightness of a divertimento. César Guerra-Peixe's Bilhete de um Jorral for solo viola follows, challenging the performer to imitate the rabeca, a rustic violin from northeastern Brazil, and to evoke the distinctive altered mixolydian Modo nordestino. The program concludes with Achille Picchi's Galato, a playful and slightly mischievous work, full of humor and wit, perfectly capturing the composer's spirited style.

20th January

Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique >

15 : 30 - 16 : 30 IVS ROUND TABLE

Project 77

IVS BOARD

World

Roundtable former hosts: The celebration of the viola in 50 congresses

Marcus Thompson (1985, Boston); Peter Slowik (1993, Evanston, IL); Ann Frederking (1999, Guelph, CA); Emile Cantor/Ludwig Hampe (2003, Würzburg, D); Jutta Puchhammer-Sédillot, (2006, Montréal, CA); Nancy Buck (2008, Tempe, AZ, USA); Catherine Carol-Lee (2010, Cincinnati, OH, USA); Sybille Hoedt-Schmidt (2011, Kronberg, D); George Taylor/Carol Rodland (Rochester, NY, USA); Bogusława Hubisz-Sielska (2013 Kraków, 2019 Poznań, PL); Jorge Alves (2014, Porto, P); Dorotea Vismara (2016, Cremona, IT); Kristofer Skaug (2018, Rotterdam, NL); Katrin Meidell (2022, Columbus, GA, USA); Emerson di Biaggi (2024, Campinas, BR)

Join us in celebrating fifty remarkable International Viola Congresses for a special roundtable bringing together our past hosts, moderated by IVS Treasurer Emyln Stam. They will share their stories, highlights, and challenges from past congresses, and reflect on how the Viola Congress has evolved—and where it might go next.

The event also features the premiere screening of a new documentary film tracing the history of all fifty congresses, created and produced by IVS Vice-President Karin Dolman.

16 : 30 - 17 : 30 TRIBUTE TO PATRICK ROBIN

IVS Project

LECTURE

France

Program

Recognized as one of the greatest French luthiers of his generation, Patrick Robin dedicated his life to the pursuit of the perfect sound — one that is pure, vibrant, and profoundly human. His instruments, the result of exceptional craftsmanship and an uncompromising artistic vision, have accompanied musicians across the world.

This tribute honors not only the master craftsman himself, but also the spirit of passion, precision, and generosity he so deeply embodied. Through music and remembrance, we celebrate his enduring legacy — a sound that continues to resonate with life and emotion.

18 : 30 - 20 : 00 DINNER



20:30 - 22:00 ELECTRONIC

Project 201 AUDIOVISUAL PROJECT Sweden

Sandhamn – Suite for electric violas, electronics and moving images

Henrik Frendin, electric viola and 5-string electric bass viola
Fredrik Emilson, grand piano, live electronics, and fixed media

Cinematography – Marcus Möller
Technical supervisor – Daniel Bruno
Director – Fredrik Emilson

«Sandhamn – Suite for electric violas, electronics and moving images» is an audiovisual performance by Swedish violist, conductor and composer Henrik Frendin and Swedish composer Fredrik Emilson. This multidimensional composition is created especially for the IVC 50th anniversary. Two artists on stage accompanied by a large-scale cinematic projection capturing the intriguing interplay of light and darkness and the enthralling horizons of the Swedish archipelago. The music, both written and improvised, is derived from the soundtrack of the Swedish TV drama series «The Sandhamn Murders» («Morden i Sandhamn», «Meurtres à Sandhamn», «Mord im Mittsommer»). It's one of the most successful Swedish drama series of all time with over 100 million views across Europe in countries such as France, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Finland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Switzerland, and Sweden over the last decade. Fredrik Emilson has written and produced the score for the series. Henrik Frendin has conducted the orchestra and has also contributed to the score as a solo violist. In this performance, Henrik Frendin will expand the sound palette using his electric viola and 5-string electric bass viola, both unique custom-made instruments constructed by luthier Richard Rolf. The moving images of the Swedish archipelago come from Marcus Möller, an award-winning cinematographer and drone operator. His nature films, shown at festivals globally, reflect his passion for nature through heightened reality with a naturalistic aesthetic and experimental use of colors and light.

Project 15 SHARED RECITAL USA

The Rhythm of New Life: Two Works for Amplified Viola and Electronics by Stephen Andrew Taylor

Brian Buckstead, viola

Pulse Aria / Achoo Lullaby — Stephen Andrew Taylor (b.1965)

Pulse Aria was inspired by the moment composer Stephen Andrew Taylor and his wife, Chinese-born artist Hua Nian, first heard their unborn child's heartbeat—a sound at once immense and intimate, like a distant ocean wave carrying a solitary spark of life. Moved by its strange beauty, Taylor sampled the heartbeat to form the foundation of the piece's rhythmic groove, drawing influence from Björk's Homogenic. To deepen the otherworldly atmosphere, he added a reversed and pitch-shifted sample of a Chinese singing bowl. Floating above this textured soundscape, the viola's rubato line evokes the fragile yet fierce presence of life on the verge of beginning. Achoo Lullaby, composed after the birth of their son Lincoln, captures the wonder of new life. Taylor recorded the baby's sneezes and hiccups, which were sampled into a playful percussion track. The viola alternates between plucking and bowing, eventually revealing a dreamlike version of a Chinese lullaby that Hua had taught him. Both pieces blend acoustic and electronic elements, pushing performers to balance technical precision with lyrical expressiveness. Together, they explore the intersection of technology, nature, and human emotion in sound.

Project 90 RECITAL United Kingdom

Tessellatum — ambient music for short attention spans.

Dominic Stokes – viola
Maria Andrews – filmmaker
Donnacha Dennehy – composer

Donnacha Dennehy — Tessellatum (2015, new version for solo viola 2025)

"I set down a beautiful chord on paper and suddenly it rusts" — Alfred Schnittke
Motion is something inherent to music; it is essential to our survival as animals, and from the polyphony of Thomas Tallis up to Schnittke, Steve Reich, and Donnacha Dennehy, movement, repetition, and refraction have been an artistic obsessions of ours for hundreds of years.
"Tessellatum" is an exploration of space, providence, and a reflection on how the soil we stand on affects our views, and the art we create. In a hypnotic 45-minute meditation, I combine a new version of 'Tessellatum' for solo viola and playback, by the prolific Irish composer Donnacha Dennehy, with a commissioned visual response by Maria Andrews, to create an otherworldly, immersive atmosphere; eliding musical and visual lines, one shape from a 1000 different angles.



09:00 - 11:00 KAREN TUTTLE ROUND TABLE

Project 18/52/143 LECTURE AND WORKSHOP USA/France

Karen Tuttle's Legacy Beyond Coordination

Brenton Caldwell, moderator
Vinciane Beranger, Kim Kashkashian, Michelle LaCourse, Carol Rodland, Jennifer Stumm
Second Generation Students: Daphné Gerling, Katherine Lewis, Katrin Meidell, Emmanuella Reiter

Welcome attendees
Discussion: The Human/The Artist/The Teacher/Preserving Karen Tuttle's Legacy

American violist and teacher Karen Tuttle (1920–2010) was one of the most influential pedagogues of our time, remembered for her revolutionary teaching system known as coordination. Behind this system was an extraordinary artist and exemplary human being whose teaching embodied generosity, kindness, and a deep humanity. This discussion brings together six former students from various stages of her teaching career to reflect on their time with Tuttle, offering moments of empowerment, revelation, and inspiration. To demonstrate the ongoing reach of her influence, second-generation violists—students of her students—will also share how Tuttle's ideas continue to shape their musical and pedagogical lives today. Emmanuella Reiter will demonstrate the application of Coordination concepts to orchestral excerpts. Many musicians are unaware that Karen Tuttle was also an exceptional performer. Short excerpts from her rarely heard recordings will be shared, illuminating the unique qualities of her artistry and her deep musical insight. From a pedagogical standpoint, Tuttle's legacy remains vibrant, studied and celebrated in publications, workshops, and classrooms around the world. Through this discussion, the panelists will share with congress attendees who did not have the good fortune of knowing Karen Tuttle her deeper legacy of great humanity and artistry.



12:00 - 13:00 LUNCH

13:00 - 14:00 JOINT STUDENT CONCERT

Project 182 SHARED RECITAL Netherland

French-German Partner Concert

Kirill Volkov, Viola
Prof. Lena Eckels, Viola
The viola class from Lübeck/Germany meets students from Paris. They will form in various chamber groups to celebrate the long collaboration of French-German viola exchange.

Matthias Dürst — Adagio for 4 violas
Carlos Campos Medina — Capriccio No.1 for 10 violas «The adventure begins»(2025) (French First Performance)
Philipp Wallis Nicolai — «The Silence» for viola solo (2025) (French first performance)
Astor Piazzolla — «Oblivion» for 8 violas
Rico Gubler — «Brahms gewidmet» for Viola solo (French First Performance)
Gordon Jacob — Suite for 8 violas
Zdenek Fibich — Poeme for 8 violas

For many years, a strong musical connection has flourished between Lübeck, Paris, and Lyon, with numerous students benefiting from exchanges that allowed them to deepen their studies in France and Germany. This program celebrates the artistic ties initiated years ago by Professors Barbara Westphal, Françoise Gnéri, and Jean Sulem, highlighting the enduring importance of dialogue and inspiration, particularly in times of global challenges and reduced cultural funding.

The performance will feature a vibrant selection of chamber music for viola, presented by students from these institutions, along with three French premieres of new works for solo viola performed by Kirill Volkov and Professor Lena Eckels (Lübeck) and for 10 violas presented by the Lübeck Viola class.

20th January

Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique >

14 : 00 - 16 : 30

LAWRENCE POWER

IVS Invitation

MASTERCLASS

United Kingdom

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

16 : 30 - 17 : 30

BREAK

17 : 30 - 18 : 30

HISTORY – LATE 19TH CENTURY

Project I3I

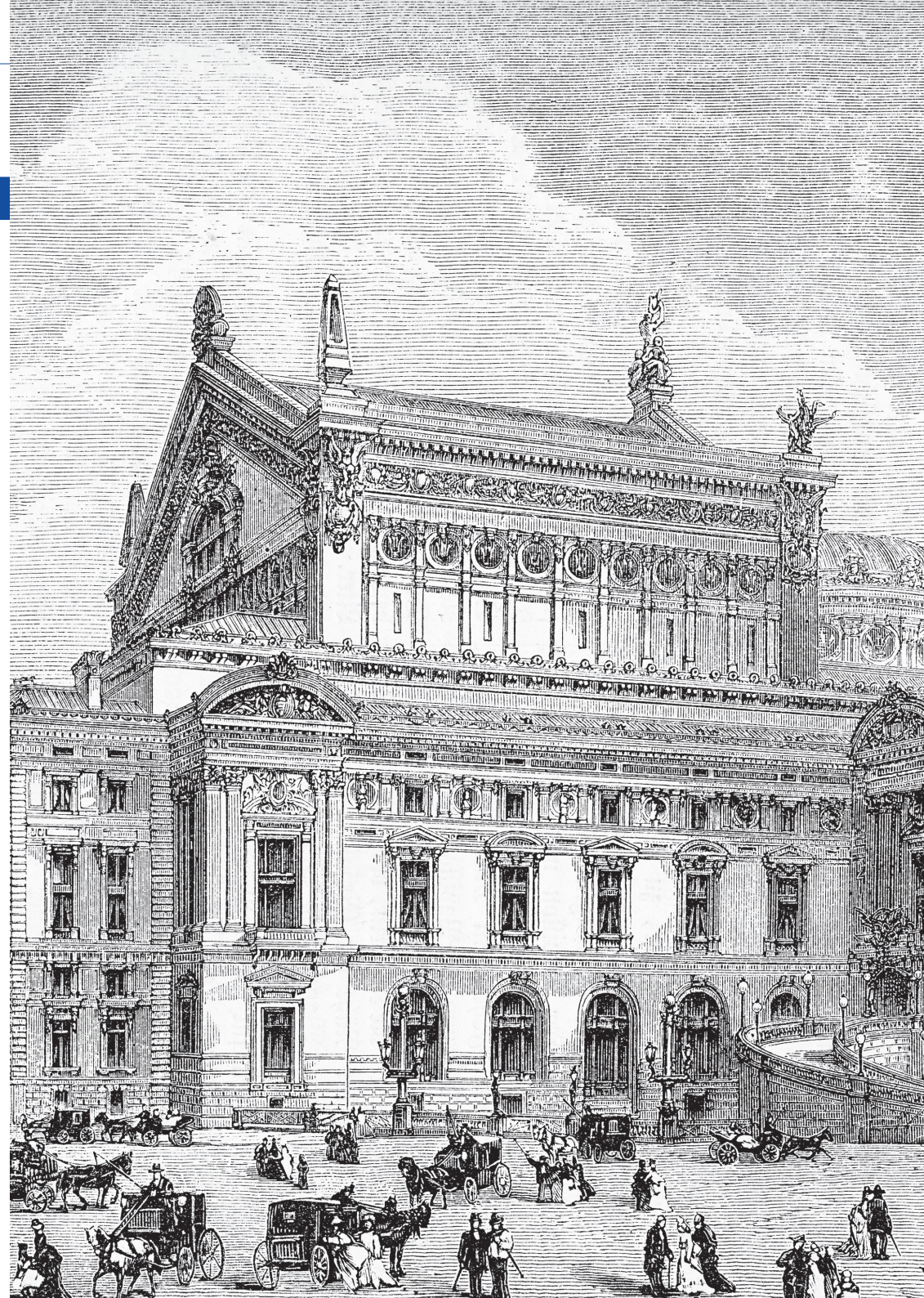
LECTURE

France

Viola Players in France from Casimir-Ney to Théophile Laforge (1850–1918): Portraits, Lineages, and Legacy

Frédéric Lainé, viola
Jean Sautereau, viola
Philippe Hattat, piano

While in 19th-century France the practice of violin and viola remained closely linked, from around 1850 a new category of musicians began to emerge, devoted primarily to the viola. This lecture will focus on some of the most significant figures — Casimir-Ney, Pierre Adam, Alfred Vigüier, Louis van Waefelghem, Pierre Monteux, Théophile Laforge and his student Maurice Vieux — by examining their careers, repertoire, and musical publications. From the virtuosic boldness of Casimir-Ney's 24 Preludes to the founding of the viola class at the Paris Conservatoire under Théophile Laforge, these were decisive years for the instrument's recognition, the development of its pedagogy, and the establishment of its autonomy.



20th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique >

Salle **BOUQUET** (50 seats)

10 : 00 - 12 : 00 TRADITIONAL PEDAGOGY

Project 4I WORKSHOP USA

Palaschko vs. Mahler

Danny Keasler, viola

Johannes Palaschko — Selected studies from Op. 86 and 92, Volumes I & 2, with orchestral excerpts by Mahler, Brahms, and Strauss

In the mood to play some orchestral excerpts for fun? Ever wondered how Palaschko etudes might complement the orchestral excerpts? Join «Palaschko versus Mahler» to discover what's the best etude to prepare alongside selected orchestral excerpts. Bring your instruments and let's discover together one of the most fun ways to prepare for an orchestral audition.



Project I02 WORKSHOP Colombia

Viola in colors: "Strengthening Classical Technique through Latin American Rhythms" — Exploring Latin American Rhythms through Viola Ensemble

Astrid Lucia Jerez Rodríguez, viola

Jesus A. Rey (1956–2009) — Suite of Colombian Dances, arranged for viola ensemble by Adolfo Hernández (1972)

This workshop highlights the pedagogical value of Latin American rhythms—especially those from Colombia, such as bambuco, pasillo, porro, danza, and cumbia—in the formation of classical violists. By stepping beyond symmetrical rhythmic patterns, participants develop a stronger internal pulse, greater musical flexibility, and enhanced ensemble awareness. These vibrant traditions not only strengthen classical technique and phrasing, but also encourage deeper musical expression and cultural connection. Through original viola ensemble arrangements, the workshop offers a joyful and dynamic pathway to expand technical mastery while embracing the richness of Latin American identity.

Project II6 WORKSHOP Finland

Scale Duets for Viola

Lauri Hamalainen, viola

Franz Wohlfahrt (1875) — Elementary Method for Beginners, Op. 38
Jacques Féréal Mazas (1832) — Violin Method
Charles de Bériot (1857) — Violin Method, Op. 102
Carlo Dancla (1852) — Elementary and Progressive Method for Violin, Op. 55
Ferdinand Küchler (1910) — Violin Method
Otakar Ševčík (1903) — Violin School for Beginners, Op. 6
Baillot, Rode, and Kreutzer (ca. 1835) — Violin Method
Bartolomeo Campagnoli (1827) — New Method of the Progressive Mechanics of Violin Playing

"Let's Play Scale Duets for Viola" is a collection of scales compiled from some of the most important violin methods, written by renowned violinists and teachers from France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, and the Czech Republic. These scales motivate young viola students while providing teachers with an excellent tool to teach chamber music, intonation, tone production, and phrasing. During the workshop, participants will play examples of these scales together and explore how they can be used to encourage students to practice and to play more with their peers. The scales will be approached with the same stylistic principles as in the original methods: singing lines, continuous vibrato, and legato in both hands. Scale Duets was published on May 7, 2024, for violin, viola, and cello by Violin Friends. Participants are encouraged to bring their own instruments.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 LUNCH

13 : 00 - 15 : 00 TRADITIONAL PEDAGOGY AND VIOLAVIVA

Project 169 SHARED RECITAL Italy

Enriching an entire viola studio through empowering international students

Enhancing student's participation and learning effectiveness through the inclusion of music from their background in the curriculum.

Dorotea Vismara, viola (professor)
Michela Caloro, viola
Simone Donato, viola
Mehrdad Faghiri, viola
Zeno Oberkofler, viola
Virginia Rigotti, viola
Ji Si, viola
Francesca Zanghellini, viola

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) — Concerto in sol minore RV531 I. Allegro
Mongolian Traditional — arr. Guan, Swan Goose
Kurdish Traditional — arr. Faghiri, Kabouki
Franz Schubert (1797-1828) — Erlkönig

Professor Dorotea Vismara will illustrate the social, instructional, musical and technical advantages of including repertoire of the different cultures represented in the studio, in the students' curriculum. The talk will be intertwined with musical examples performed by members of the Monteverdi Viola Ensemble.

Project 209 LECTURE United Kingdom

ViolaViva's New Educational Catalogue

Sarah Boothroyd, violin and viola
Karin Dolman, viola
Austin Boothroyd, presenter and piano
Hansruedi Gräf, publisher ViolaViva

By Laughnerne Brook for viola and piano — My First Playlist, Austin Boothroyd, ViolaViva, 2022
Sekunde for solo viola — Die Intervalle, Michael Bönsdorf, ViolaViva, 2022
Spring Welcome for viola and piano — Viola Fun Time, Robert Saxton, ViolaViva, 2025
Allemande aus Partita I for violin and viola — Aus den Sechs Klavierpartiten, J S Bach arr. Austin Boothroyd, ViolaViva, 2025

An introduction to new repertoire, studies and exercises written specifically for viola students of all ages, published by ViolaViva. The music publisher ViolaViva, located in Winterthur, Switzerland, specialises in chamber music for viola, with a particular focus on works where the viola plays a significant and sometimes novel role. In 2022 the publisher initiated an educational catalogue for viola, with new publications grouped into four series and categorised, where helpful, in terms of their difficulty from grade 1 (very easy) to grade 8 (advanced). Following a brief spoken introduction, examples from the new educational catalogue will be performed live by Sarah Boothroyd, Karin Dolman and Austin Boothroyd. The publisher is keen to engage with students, teachers and composers to help shape the future of the new catalogue. The performers and the publisher, Hansruedi Gräf, will be available for questions and discussion.

Project 85 LECTURE Brazil/Germany

The role of teachers in fostering student autonomy, also known as self-regulated learning

Hella Frank, viola

Teaching in the 21st-century.
Student-centered pedagogy and autonomy-supporting teaching in higher music education.
Research findings in self-regulated learning and educational psychology.
Collaboration possibilities between teacher and student and among students.

What if we could transform music students from passive recipients into empowered, self-directed learners?

Revolutionary insights from neuroscience and educational psychology are reshaping how we understand learning and motivation in the 21st century. The traditional teacher-centered model is giving way to a collaborative approach, where educators serve as guides rather than gatekeepers. This student-centered pedagogy recognizes that every musician learns differently. By adopting an autonomy-supportive teaching style that values students' perspectives, needs, and interests, teachers can foster deeper engagement and sustained motivation. The magic happens when instructor and student work as partners, starting from the student's current abilities and collaboratively charting the path forward. Rather than simply instructing, this approach creates conditions for discovery—helping students explore what they know, feel, and experience while identifying their next steps toward musical mastery. Join me as I share research findings, practical experiences, and tangible results from implementing student-centered pedagogy and self-regulated learning in higher music education. Discover how this transformative approach enhances not only technical skills, but also overall well-being and lifelong musical growth.

Project 94 LECTURE Canada

Chamber Music Pedagogy Across Borders: Insights from the U.S. and Canada

Leslie Ashworth, viola

Canadian violist Leslie Ashworth presents on chamber music pedagogy through a cross-cultural lens, drawing on interviews, observations, and research across North America. While chamber music is central to musical training, its teaching methods often remain informal and under-documented. Alongside a brief historical look at chamber music pedagogy, this presentation shares preliminary insights from Leslie's doctoral dissertation, comparing rehearsal strategies and ensemble-building practices in different contexts. Practical tools and key findings aim to spark dialogue on how we might reimagine chamber music education today—honouring its traditions while adapting to the needs of future generations. Currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts under Misha Amory at The Juilliard School, Leslie was awarded Juilliard's Spring 2025 George J. Jakab Global Enrichment Grant to support this research.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30 BREAK

15 : 30 - 16 : 30 **LUTHERIE**

Project I73 LECTURE **Brazil/Italy**

Viola making - classic schools, models, sound, challenges for luthiers in the past and now

Luis Claudio Manfio, viola maker

When a luthier decides to make a violin, he has two basic models: Stradivari and Guarneri Del Gesù. But if the instrument is a viola it is not all that simple. First there is the question of size (from 15.5 to 18 inches), then the model, that can be Cremonese (Amati, Guarneri, Stradivari), Brescian (Gasparo da Salò, Maggini, Zanetto), Venetian (Busan), or personal.

Depending on the choices of the maker the resulting viola can vary a lot in terms of sound, playability, the way you feel the viola under the chin and appearance. Then comes the sound, dark or bright. All these possibilities will affect violist's decisions when they are looking for a viola too.

The viola is tuned one octave above the cello so, ideally, it should be half of the size of cello, but that would make it unplayable.

A viola maker will try to solve some of the "viola problems": a too narrow dynamic range (you change your bowing and nothing happens in terms of volume and sound color), slow response, a dead C string, lack of clarity (notes will mingle in quick passages) and unfocused and hollow sound.

Project I78 LECTURE **Mexico**

Reconstructing and Modeling a 41 cm Viola in the Style of Nicolas Lupot

Amaury Meza-Pérez – Doctoral candidate in Acoustical Engineering at Sorbonne Université, Laboratoire d'Alembert
Ik Arellano – Master's student in restoration of musical and scientific instruments.
Adam Łapiński – Doctoral candidate at Laboratoire d'Alembert, Sorbonne Université.

Construction of a 41 cm viola using early 19th-century templates – Ik Arellano
Geometric adaptation for FEM simulation – Adam Łapiński
Material testing and acoustic modeling (FEM) – Amaury Meza-Pérez

We present the reconstruction and acoustic modeling of a 41 cm viola inspired by an 1803 violin by Nicolas Lupot. Because original Lupot violas are extremely rare, the model is based on detailed photographs of a preserved violin. The geometry was adapted through segmented scaling (body 115, f-holes 125, scroll 117) to preserve Lupot's visual identity while achieving balanced viola proportions, with manual adjustments guided by early-19th-century templates. Wood offcuts from the plates and ribs were tested to obtain real mechanical properties, enabling a high-fidelity FEM including solid mechanics and acoustics coupled through an air domain. This allows realistic predictions of modes, radiation, and Helmholtz resonance. We investigate how vibrational behavior changes when violas of different sizes are built from the same wood—an impossible task in traditional making due to natural variability. By fixing measured material parameters and varying only geometry, this historically informed reconstruction becomes a virtual laboratory to explore design choices inaccessible to craftsmanship alone.

17 : 30 - 18 : 30 **INNOVATION**

Project 60 WORKSHOP **USA**

Conductivity: Strengthening the Connection Between Performer and Audience

Peter Slowik, viola

Lecture with demonstrations

This masterclass/demonstration summarizes principles learned over 45 years of university teaching. Selected performers will put these concepts into practice in a lecture-demonstration format. The violist serves as a vital link between the composer's creative vision and the audience's ear and heart. Ideally, the performer communicates every aspect of the composer's intention while maintaining the work's integrity, acting as a "superconductor" of its creative energy. A grounded, free performer can also bring a unique perspective, giving the work new life.

To achieve this, a violist must master technique, body fluidity, spatial awareness, historical styles, and more. Building on Karen Tuttle's coordination approach, I have developed a system called "Conductivity," guiding performers to combine technical, intellectual, and emotional mastery to fully serve the score. This workshop explores the physics of the viola, body awareness, optimized practice sequencing, and managing intellectual and emotional energy to achieve expressive freedom and maximum fluidity.

Project 203 WORKSHOP **Turkey**

Improvioala Jazz

Nehir Akansu, viola

SWING
In a Mellow Tone, Duke Ellington
BEBOP
Now's the time, Charlie Parker
FUNK
Chameleon, Herbie Hancock

Improvioala jazz is an interactive workshop, designed for violists from all levels. To learn the three most common jazz styles: swing, bebop, and funk with the well-known compositions of the jazz repertoire. Play them on the viola with quick memorising types and improvising on with their backing tracks. This workshop aims to make any violist closer to improvise and discover their own music phrases, motifs or rhythmic patterns which will occur in the moment. As Miles Davis said "Do not fear the mistakes. There are none"

20th January

Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique >

11:30 - 12:00

LEMOINE SHOWCASE

IVS Project

SHOWCASE

France

TBC

12:00 - 13:00

LUNCH

15:30 - 16:30

RELAXATION

Project I59

QI GONG WORKSHOP

USA

From Crane Step to Butterfly Palm: Integrating Qigong into Viola Playing by Practicing Heidi Castleman's 'Strings with Qigong'

Netanel Pollak, viola & presenter
Heidi Castleman, co-instructor

Introduction by N. Pollak
Video demonstration by Heidi Castleman
Warm-up and Qigong sequences with the audience
Final words and Q&A's

In this presentation, I will explore the profound benefits of Qigong for viola players, emphasizing physical wellness and enhanced performance. Qigong, an ancient Chinese practice involving gentle movements and breath control, fosters relaxation and improves posture. It observes nature for models of movement and sound, particularly inspired by animals like tigers, bears, birds, dragons, and butterflies. It acts like rocket fuel for a musician, as both Qigong and playing a string instrument are centered around the vibration and flow of movement—one through sound, and the other through physical motion. I will introduce Heidi Castleman's 'Strings with Qigong' project, which integrates Qigong principles into viola playing, and other instruments' practice. Heidi Castleman will join the session remotely to demonstrate key movements and discuss their application. Attendees will gain practical insights on how to incorporate Qigong into their routines, promote holistic musicianship and address common physical challenges.



09 : 30 - 10 : 30 BRITISH MUSIC

Project 74 LECTURE RECITAL Australia/United Kingdom

British Violists of the Late 19th Century: Spotlight on Emil Kreuz and His Viola Concerto

Valerie Tate, viola
Kerry Yong, piano

Emil Kreuz (1867- 1932) — Viola Concerto in C minor, op.20 (1892)

At the turn of the 20th century, violists such as Emil Kreuz, Simon Speelman, Émile Férir, Alfred Hobday, Waldo Warner, and Ernest Tomlinson shaped the viola's role as a solo instrument. Emil Kreuz, known for his pedagogical works, which are still published today, also composed a technically demanding viola concerto reminiscent of Viotti's violin concertos. This presentation highlights these pioneering violists and includes excerpts from Kreuz's concerto.

Project 75 LECTURE RECITAL Australia/United Kingdom

Granville Bantock (1868 – 1946), Sonata in F major for Viola and Piano «Colleen» (1918)

Valerie Tate, viola
Kerry Yong, piano

A talk about the composer, his viola sonata and a performance of excerpts from the sonata.

A colourful character, innovative and charismatic, Granville Bantock promoted the music of his contemporaries and worked tirelessly for the development of music in the Midlands and the North of England at the beginning of the twentieth century. His rhapsodic and deeply romantic viola sonata reflects his fascination with the orient, his love of opera and his Celtic heritage. This presentation will include a performance of excerpts from the sonata demonstrating his use of thematic material.

10 : 30 - 12 : 00 BRITISH MUSIC

Project 88 RECITAL United Kingdom

The British Viola Ensemble: Bowen, Dale, Beamish, Werner, Jacob, Bridge, Knox, Ireland and Benjamin.

Yehudi Menuhin School

Benjamin Dale — Introduction and Andante for six violas
Jaeyun Han, Bobbie Chen, Victoria Stolte, Shan Ga Mak, Kit Ross, Jackson Kou
Bridge — Lament and Caprice for two violas
Jaeyun Han, Rodrigo Agudelo Celda
Sally Beamish — Prelude and Canon for two violas
Bobbie Chen, Shan Ga Mak
Gordon Jacob — Sonatine for two violas
Jackson Kou, Kit Ross
York Edwin Bowen — Fantasie for four violas
Rodrigo Agudelo Celda, Bobbie Chen, Victoria Stolte, Jackson Kou

Royal Northern College of Music

George Benjamin — Viola Viola
Susie He, Jeanette Szeto
Héloïse Werner — Incantation in 4-parts
Xueer Wu, Estelle Gonzalez, Maria Morris, Emily O'Dell
Garth Knox — Marin Marais Variations for four violas
Matthew Hayes, Celeste Meisel, Rory Africa, Kirin Howat
Sally Beamish — A Farewell for six violas
Susie He, Jeanette Szeto, Paula Bowes, Sophie Combes, Steph Roberts, Peter Whitehead
Robin Ireland — Mosaic
Susie He, Jeanette Szeto, Paula Bowes, Maria Morris, Xueer Wu, Celeste Meisel, Kiara Kim, Peter Whitehead, Rory Africa, Steph Roberts, Xavier Williams, Di Wu, Matthew Hayes, Utility Wong, Ilana Tapper, Emily O'Dell, Kirin Howat, Alexandra Harrison, Sophie Combes, Kezia Elliott, Éadaoin Drumgoole.

Dr Louise Lansdown from the Royal Northern College of Music (22 students) and the Yehudi Menuhin School (7 students). Other staff members includes Catherine Yates and Lucy Nolan from the RNCM and Rosalind Ventris and Robin Harskin from the Yehudi Menuhin School.

This project presents a unique double event: performances by students aged 14–18 from the renowned Yehudi Menuhin School, alongside students, faculty, and alumni of the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. Directed by Dr. Louise Lansdown (President of the British Viola Society, Deputy Head of Strings at RNCM, and Professor of Viola at YMS) and Lucy Nolan (RNCM), the program showcases the richness of the British viola tradition, inspired by the great Lionel Tertis. Works include music by Benjamin Dale, York Bowen, Sally Beamish, George Benjamin, and a new arrangement of Héloïse Werner's Incantation in 4 Parts for four violas, specially prepared for this congress. Also featured is Mosaic by Robin Ireland, premiered in 2025 and presented here under the composer's direction.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 LUNCH

20th January

Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Paris - Ida Rubinstein >

13 : 00 - 14 : 00

BRITISH MUSIC

Project 92

LECTURE

United Kingdom

Creating An Accessible Future for the Viola

Ilana Tapper, viola

Comparison of original Betts 1786 viola to a modernised instrument made on commission by Helen Michetschlager using the Betts as a model
Features of violas and how variation can be utilised to minimise risk - includes scrolls, necks, shoulders, back length
Adaptations that can be made by a player or non-specialist
Adaptations that require a luthier

The stereotypical expectation of viola players and the technical demands of the repertoire have developed significantly over the last century. "Creating An Accessible Future for the Viola" is a collation of my efforts to make the viola accessible for my disabilities, adapted so that it can be applied by and for the rest of the viola playing community. These ideas range from DIY strategies to case studies where traditional instrument models have been altered to produce an instrument ergonomically suited to an individual.

Project 87

RECITAL

United Kingdom

French Premieres of rarely performed Solo Viola Gems by Per Nørgård and Hilary Tann

Matthew Jones, viola

Per Nørgård — Sonata: The Secret Melody (from "Libro per Nobuko")
Hilary Tann — The Cresset Stone: A meditation for solo viola

Described as the 'finest violist since Primrose' by 'Strings' magazine, celebrated Welsh violist and pedagogue Matthew Jones presents two little-known highlights from the repertoire for solo viola - Welsh/American Hilary Tann's poetic meditation on Brecon Cathedral, and Nørgaard's strikingly ingenious set of 'Variations' on a melody inspired by a Vietnamese astrophysicist, written for Nobuko Imai. Both works were given critically acclaimed UK premieres by Jones.



20th January

Conservatoire à Rayonnement Régional de Paris - Ida Rubinstein >

11:00 - 12:00

MUSIC BY WOMEN

Project 7

LECTURE

USA

Rediscovering Charlotte Hampe: Composer, Performer, and Educator

Ames Asbell, viola

Charlotte Hampe (1910–1983) — Excerpts from: Sieben Kleine Barock-Tänze for solo viola, Variations on a Chorale by J.S. Bach for violin and viola, 20 Petits Airs for viola and cello

German violinist/violist, pedagogue, and composer Charlotte Hampe (1910–1983) has gained renewed international recognition through her *Sieben Kleine Barock-Tänze* (1937), recently reprinted and embraced by students and scholars exploring women composers. These seven charming dances offer accessible movements for young learners and more complex challenges for advanced performers. Born in Heidelberg, Hampe studied violin from age nine and became protégée and sister-in-law of early music specialist Hermann Diener. She performed and recorded as second violinist and violist with Diener's Collegium Musicum Instrumentale, co-editing Bärenreiter's 1956 edition of Bach's *Art of the Fugue*. An active teacher at the Berlin Conservatory, she instructed notable students including Christian Stadelmann and Christian Thielemann. Hampe's compositions, performances, and recordings — including works for solo viola, violin and viola, and viola and cello — continue to inspire performers and educators worldwide, offering rich material for study and interpretation.

Project 69

RECITAL

USA

Her Secret Life

Rose Wollman, viola
Anne Slovin, soprano

Gilda Lyons (b. 1975) — Charms and Blessings

1. A Charm for the Night-Fire

Rose Wollman (b. 1982) — Her Secret Life

1. Mayn Mame

2. The Buck

Joni Mitchell (arr. Liam Wade) — A Case of You

Jessica Meyer (b. 1974) — The Last Rose

Through the interplay of the viola and the soprano voice, our recital program titled *Her Secret Life* explores themes of subversiveness, activism, and counterculturalism in women's historical fight for equality. The music is all composed by women, and the text includes poetry from the Abbasid Caliphate in the 10th century, Ireland in the mid-19th century, a Jewish Brooklyn neighborhood in the mid-20th century, and the singer-songwriter tradition of the early 21st century. Violist Rose Wollman and soprano Anne Slovin designed this program to look to the past through a contemporary lens and explore the timbral possibilities of this unique combination of instruments. Their repertoire choices also celebrate and amplify the voices of women who fought, both overtly and secretly, for their rights.

12:00 - 13:00

LUNCH



13 : 00 – 15 : 00

MUSIC BY WOMEN

Project 51

LECTURE RECITAL

USA

Lillian Fuchs's Sonata Pastorale and the Evolution of Her Compositional Voice

Katrin Meidell, viola

Lillian Fuchs (1902–1995) — Sonata Pastorale

Lillian Fuchs (1902–1995) is a central figure in the development of modern viola repertoire. Celebrated equally for her artistry as a performer and skill as a pedagogue, Fuchs left behind a body of work that continues to shape how violists train, perform, and teach. Her Twelve Caprices laid the groundwork for a technical and expressive approach to the instrument, but it is her Sonata Pastorale—composed shortly thereafter—that reveals her compositional voice at its most expansive and personal.

This presentation centers on the Sonata Pastorale as a pivotal work in Fuchs's output: a concert piece that bridges her virtuosic early writing with the pedagogical refinement found in her later Sixteen Fantasy Etudes and Fifteen Characteristic Studies. Written for solo viola, the Sonata Pastorale is a richly expressive work featuring modal colors, contrapuntal texture, and idiomatic writing. Without departing from her pedagogical focus, it reflects her core musical values—expressiveness, clear phrasing, and solid technique.

Though often overshadowed by her études, the Sonata Pastorale can be understood as a compositional turning point: a fully realized artistic statement that would go on to inform and inspire the design of her later teaching materials. This session will examine connections between the sonata and her pedagogical works, highlighting recurring technical motifs (such as intervallic shaping, double stops, and modal inflections) and shared expressive aims.

The presentation will culminate in a complete performance of the Sonata Pastorale, offering audiences a chance to hear Fuchs's musical voice in full bloom. In re-evaluating this work within the broader context of her compositional timeline, we gain not only a deeper appreciation for the sonata itself, but also a richer understanding of the artistic foundation beneath her enduring pedagogical legacy.

Project 118

LECTURE RECITAL

France

Composers Manuscripts as a Resource for Interpretation: Rebecca Clarke's Sonata for Viola and Piano

Vinciane Béranger, viola
Viola Paço, piano

Rebecca Clarke — Sonata for Viola and piano (excerpts from the manuscript, the 1921 Chester edition corrected by Clarke, and her annotated concert scores)

This presentation explores the interpretive resources found in the manuscripts and editions of Rebecca Clarke's Sonata for viola and piano. Written in 1919 for the Coolidge Competition, where Clarke was a finalist, the Sonata quickly gained attention and was published by Chester Editions. However, significant discrepancies remain between the viola and piano parts, despite Clarke's involvement in the editing. The manuscript given to the competition and Clarke's own annotated performance scores reveal important insights into her compositional process and musical world. Particular attention is given to interpretive markings such as tempo, rubato, breathing, ruptures and dynamics. Through analysis and performance excerpts, this lecture-recital aims to provide performers with tools to better understand Clarke's artistic vision for the viola and to inspire informed, personal interpretations.

Project 24

SHARED RECITAL

USA

Women of Character: Music by Lillian Fuchs and Melia Watras

Anthony Devroye, viola

Lillian Fuchs (1901–1995) — Preludio, No. I from 16 Fantasy Etudes
 Watras (b. 1969) — Gigli Melia
 Lillian Fuchs (1901–1995) — Amabile, No. XII from 15 Characteristic Studies
 Watras (b. 1969) — Fucsia
 Watras (b. 1969) — Fresia
 Lillian Fuchs (1901–1995) — Alla Marcia, No. IX from 12 Caprices

In her three volumes of studies for solo viola, the 20th-century American violist Lillian Fuchs defines colorful and distinctive musical characters not often explored in our repertoire. Intriguing descriptions abound, such as frescamente, morbidezza, and amorevole. The contemporary violist-composer Melia Watras also works at the extreme edges of musical character, uncovering nuance and defying expectations in how the viola creates expression and drama. Violist Anthony Devroye has asked Watras to create companion pieces to three of Fuchs's études in a call and response manner. The resulting "suite" opens with a Preludio (by Fuchs) of defiant energy, followed by Gigli, a hypnotic dance (Watras). Fuchs's gentle Amabile in the singing high register is answered con fuoco and precipitando by Watras in Fucsia. In the final pairing, a free-flowing fantasy, Fresia, by Watras is snapped to attention by the vigorous and joyful Alla marcia from Fuchs's Caprices.

The three Watras works (Gigli, Fucsia and Fresia) also form the movements for the viola sonata, I fiori.

Project 4

SHARED RECITAL

USA

Lamentation for Viola and Piano by Jeanne Behrend

Jacob Adams, viola
N.N, piano

Jeanne Behrend — Lamentation for Viola and Piano

This intense and powerful work, composed in 1944, was dedicated to Behrend's cousin, Edward Epstein, who was killed while serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. Behrend soon abandoned composition altogether, believing that, as noted in her 1988 New York Times obituary, "the possibilities available to women in composition were too limited." In this sense, the work also serves as a lament for the compositions that were collectively denied to us due to the unequal treatment of women composers.

The performer has championed this piece for several years, including recording it for the American Viola Society on their 2023 album Works by Underrepresented Composers, which was reviewed in the June 2024 issue of The Strad, praising his performance of Lamentation as "packing an emotional punch." The piece is also available on Adams' recording "Voices from the Homefront," showcasing viola works by American composers from the 1940s.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30 BREAK

15 : 30 - 16 : 30 MUSIC BY WOMEN

Project 84 LECTURE RECITAL Brazil/USA/Germany/Italy

The Viola Works of Marcelle Soulage: Exploring Her Masterpieces and Legacy

Daphné Gerling, viola
Hillary Herndon, viola
Tomoko Kashiwagi, piano
Bernadette Lo, piano

Marcelle Soulage — Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op. 25
Marcelle Soulage — Sonata for Viola, Op. 43

This lecture-recital presents the music and legacy of French composer Marcelle Fanny Henriette Soulage (1894–1970), with a focus on her works for viola. Born in Peru to French parents, Soulage moved to France at age four and studied at the Paris Conservatory with Georges Caussade, Paul Vidal, Vincent d'Indy, and Nadia Boulanger. Her close relationship with Boulanger and her sister Lilli is illuminated through archival correspondence at the Bibliothèque nationale de France. The recital features her Sonata for Viola and Piano (1919), awarded second prize at the 1921 Salon des Musiciens Français and published in 1925, alongside her solo Viola Sonata, Op. 43 (1921/1930), both in four contrasting movements. Additional works explored include the Pastorale for oboe, viola, and harp, Op. 15, and the Suite in C minor for violin, viola, and piano, Op. 16, with discussion of possible transcriptions for viola. Excerpts will be performed by Daphné Gerling and Tomoko Kashiwagi, as well as Hillary Herndon and Bernadette Lo, highlighting Soulage's expressive and pioneering contributions to the viola repertoire.

Project 45 LECTURE RECITAL USA

Interwoven Voices: Contemporary Chamber Works by Women Composers

Dr. Borislava Ilcheva, violin
Dr. Hsiaopei Lee, viola
Dr. Michael Bunchman, piano

Victoria Bond — Woven
Dobrinka Tabakova — Dancing on Cobbled Streets

This lecture recital investigates two compelling contemporary chamber works that explore texture, dialogue, and identity through the nuanced collaboration of strings and piano. Woven (2005) by Victoria Bond is a lyrical and intricately structured duo for violin and viola, where intertwining musical lines mirror the tension and interdependence of woven fibers—a potent metaphor for the instruments' dynamic relationship. Complementing Bond's duo is Dobrinka Tabakova's Dancing on Cobbled Streets, a newly arranged trio for violin, viola, and piano. Inspired by the unpredictable rhythms of urban life, the work unites vibrant harmonic language with propulsive rhythmic drive, celebrating the expressive and cultural intersections of contemporary chamber music. The lecture will illuminate how both composers—utilizing contrasting stylistic languages—redefine and assert women's evolving contributions to the contemporary chamber repertoire.

16 : 30 - 18 : 30 JENNIFER STUMM

IVS Invitation MASTERCLASS USA

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.



09 : 30 - 11 : 00

VIOLA ORCHESTRA

IVS Project

A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

World

Program

A large viola orchestra bringing together amateur and professional musicians from around the world. This collective project embodies the spirit of sharing and togetherness that lies at the heart of the congress, where everyone can take part in the viola's unique sound.



11 : 00 - 12 : 00

FORGOTTEN ROMANTIC REPERTOIRE

Project 65

RECITAL

USA

The Great Belgian Viola Concerto of 1915

Bryan Tyler, viola
N/N, piano

Joseph Jongen — Suite for Viola and Orchestra (1915)
I. Poème élégiaque
II. Finale

After winning Belgium's Prix de Rome in 1897, Belgian composer Joseph Jongen studied briefly with Strauss before fleeing to London at the start of World War I. There he formed the Belgian quartet with Lionel Tertis. One of Jongen's first compositions from this period was the Suite for Viola and Orchestra, Op. 48. Though originally dedicated to Tertis, when Tertis declined the premiere, Maurice Vieux (one of the fathers of the French Viola School) stepped in. Set in two movements, the suite opens with a poignant elegy containing pentatonic writing, a falling 5th sigh motif, and lush harmonies reminiscent of the opening of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6. The first movement culminates in soaring passages for the viola and angelic arpeggiated accompaniment before fading to darkness. The charming and spritely second movement is filled with bravura, vibrant colors, grand orchestration, and a lively coda. The Suite, Op. 48 stands as a significant contribution to the viola concerto repertoire of the late romantic period. Jongen's prolific viola writing reveals a lyrical style gleaming with rich harmonies and an understanding of character writing for the viola that is deserving of a place in the standard repertoire.

Project 128

LECTURE RECITAL

France

Memory and Invention: Trowell's Sonata dedicated to Tertis (& the music of Nigel Keay)

Nigel Keay, viola
Isabelle Dutel, piano
François Veilhan, flute
Frédérique Moine, clarinet

Arnold Trowell — Sonata for viola, Op. 21 (ca. 1920)
Nigel Keay — Adagietto Antique, trio for clarinet, viola, and piano (2009)
Nigel Keay — Labyrinthe, duo for flute and viola (2018)

The Viola Sonata Op. 21 by Arnold Trowell, composed around 1920 and dedicated to his friend Lionel Tertis, remained unpublished until 2023. A post-Romantic work in three movements, it illustrates the growing importance of the viola in chamber music at the turn of the 20th century. Recently revived, the sonata reveals an expressive, lyrical voice that deserves to be heard on stage again. Nigel Keay, as composer and viola player, will present his Duo for flute and viola, an unexpectedly rare combination despite its remarkable richness. The two instruments explore dialogue through contrast or timbral fusion, creating a unique sound world. This work contributes to expanding the repertoire, as well as adding to Keay's own series of duos for viola with another instrument. The ensemble Traces d'Aujourd'hui also performs Keay's Trio for clarinet, viola, and piano, a formation with works by Mozart, Schumann, Bruch, Kurtág, and Jean-Claude Wolff. Its balance and warmth make it an ideal setting for refined chamber writing, where colors blend and enrich one another. From Trowell to today's creations, this project traces a singular journey that places the viola at the heart of a dialogue between memory and invention.

20th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

CMA 9 – Conservatoire Municipal Nadia et Lili Boulanger >

AUDITORIUM (100 seats)

12 : 00 – 13 : 00 LUNCH

13 : 00 – 14 : 00 GERMAN MUSIC

Project 126 LECTURE France

Paul Hindemith and His Work

Nitya Isoard, viola

Lecture on Paul Hindemith (1895–1963)

Every violist knows the name Paul Hindemith — the Sonata Op. II No. 4, Der Schwanendreher, Sonata Op. 25 No. 1... These works, often required in competitions and auditions, challenge us both technically and musically. Yet beyond their demands, how well do we truly understand Hindemith's musical language?

A pivotal figure in 20th-century Western music, Hindemith was not only an internationally acclaimed violist but also a respected teacher, conductor, and theorist. His distinctive musical voice continues to intrigue us. This lecture draws on the research project Synthesis of a Style and a Phenomenological Approach: The Case of the Sonata for Solo Viola (1937), offering new insights into Hindemith's music from a perspective beyond pure instrumental technique.

It is an invitation to rediscover his work in a new light—or, for the more reluctant, to be reconciled with a composer whose influence on the viola repertoire remains fundamental.

Project 89 LECTURE RECITAL United Kingdom

Brahms Sonatas Op. 120 — Revelations from the Manuscript

Paul Silverthorne, viola
Flore Merlin, piano

Excerpts from Brahms's Sonatas Op. 120 Nos. 1 and 2 (1894)

Did Brahms write the viola part?
Did you know Brahms wrote too much music for the clarinetist to breathe and had to cut some out?
Did you know that we violas can put it back and play what Brahms really wanted?
Let me share with you the discoveries I have made while studying the manuscripts and other sources of these wonderful works.

14 : 00 – 15 : 00 FRENCH MUSIC

Project 172 LECTURE Italy

The Humor of Harold in Italy: Navigating Comic Irony from Score to Stage

Luca Trombetta, viola
Marianna Ritchey, musicologist / writer

A conversation that brings together scholarly perspectives and performative realities about Harold en Italie by Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)

This lecture reimagines Berlioz's Harold en Italie as an ironic commentary rather than a heroic Romantic narrative. Far from Byron's earnest Childe Harold, Berlioz casts his viola protagonist as a figure of wandering detachment—more comic than sublime. Drawing on the spirit of 1830s Paris, where artists like Théophile Gautier challenged old conventions with wit and theatricality, this presentation uncovers how Berlioz uses shifting structures, tonal surprises, and orchestral contrasts to question the very ideal of the alienated genius. Through score analysis, literary parallels, and brief live demonstrations, we show how Harold's voice reflects Berlioz's satirical edge, inviting performers to emphasize irony, hesitation, and playful contrast. Interpreting Harold through this lens deepens both scholarship and performance practice, encouraging violists and conductors to explore the work not simply as Romantic drama, but as Berlioz's clever critique of Romanticism itself.

Project 185 RECITAL Netherland

Singing Violist

Yanna Pelser, viola

6 pieces for singing violist performed and composed by Yanna Pelser

What happens when you sing while playing the viola? This has been the curiosity of violist Yanna Pelser for the past years. By blending her vocals into her viola playing she noticed a new richness and expression. While improvising freely she discovered a great joy which led her to compose music especially for singing violist. During this recital she will showcase her own compositions in which her voice intertwines with the viola's voice. In the words of OOR magazine: «Mesmerizing viola music by a singing angel».

15 : 00 - 15 : 30 BREAK

15 : 30 - 17 : 30 WESTERN MUSIC

Project 183 RECITAL **Netherland**

The Composers in my life

Anna Jurriaanse, viola

The program consists of a selection of solo viola miniatures, written by the following composers: Eden Lonsdale (UK/Germany), Yuheng Chen (China), Mattia Aisemberg-Pham (Germany/Vietnam), Lucas Altaba (Basque Country), Amarante Nat (Netherlands), Eneko Lacalle (Basque Country), Joshua Herwig (Netherlands), Sohui Jeong (Korea), Lukas Mertin (Germany), Raimonda Žiūkaitė (Lithuania), Aline Sarah Müller (Switzerland), Petra Cini (Italy), Kristóf Siklósi (Hungary), Doğukan Pahsa (Turkey), Kaja Majoor (Poland/Netherlands).

For her master's graduation at the Universität der Künste in Berlin, Anna Jurriaanse conceived the project composers in my life (inspired from the title of Morton Feldman's The Viola in My Life). She aims to create a recital that expresses her personal taste and approach to music and performance. The recital presents a collection of solo viola miniatures written by composers Anna encountered during her studies in The Hague and Berlin. Together, these miniatures create a musical portrait of 15 diverse artistic voices from all over the world. Some composers created their miniatures freely, others in close collaboration, and some drew inspiration from a simple exchange of ideas. As "just" an instrumentalist, Anna states, it is very exciting to see these miniatures come to life so close by and I am very happy to share them with you.

Project 59 LECTURE **USA**

Rhythm as the Musical Soul in Thomas Adès "Three Berceuses from The Exterminating Angel" for Viola and Piano

Brightin Rose Schlumpf, viola

Analysis of Thomas Adès (2018) — Three Berceuses from The Exterminating Angel for viola and piano.

This presentation examines the rhythmic complexity of Thomas Adès' Three Berceuses from The Exterminating Angel for viola and piano, focusing on how irregular meters, particularly the unusual 11/6 time signature, shape the work's expressive power. Drawing connections between the Berceuses and their operatic source material, the study highlights how rhythm mirrors the psychological turmoil of Adès' characters. Performance insights and contextual background reveal how understanding both the opera's libretto and Adès' metric notations enrich interpretative choices. Ultimately, rhythm emerges as the structural and emotional core of the piece, uniting drama, surrealism, and sound.

Project 166 RECITAL **Italy**

Viola! Viola!!

Luca Sanzò, viola
Michela Marchiana, viola

Gerard Pesson — Paraphernalia (2009) for two violas
Lucia Ronchetti — Requiem (1982) for viola solo
George Benjamin — Viola viola (1997) for two violas

The concert represents the parallel of Italian music for solo viola with French and English music for two violas. Particularly noteworthy is the rarely performed piece «REQUIEM» by Lucia Ronchetti, dedicated to Luca Sanzò's brother, who passed away prematurely. Luca Sanzò has recently recorded Requiem, for the first time, for the label Stradivarius.

The program opens and closes with two very famous viola duos. PARAPHERNALIA, a French piece by Gerard Pesson, and VIOLA, VIOLA by the English composer George Benjamin. Luca Sanzò and Michela Marchiana are two important Italian players, they teach in Italy and are members of PMCE, Parco della Musica Contemporanea Ensemble, resident ensemble of the important Roman auditorium.

Project 168 SHARED RECITAL **Italy**

Luciano Berio: Sicilian Folk Songs

Alessio Toro, viola
Alessandro Di Giulio, percussion

Luciano Berio — Naturale (1985) for viola, percussion and recorded voice

Naturale is a work for viola, percussion (tam-tam with sleigh bells, three roto-toms, marimba), and recorded voice, composed by Luciano Berio in 1985. The year 2025 marks the centenary of Berio's birth, providing a fitting occasion to revisit this singular piece, which also carries deep cultural significance. Closely linked to Sicilian heritage, Naturale integrates traditional folk elements into Berio's distinctive avant-garde language.

The work reuses themes from Sicilian folk songs previously employed in Voci (1984), filtering them into a more intimate and chamber-like texture. Its structure is built on three layers: the viola, which assumes the central expressive voice; the percussion, offering a subtle commentary that frames and supports; and the recorded voice of Sicilian storyteller-singer Peppino (Giuseppe) Celano, captured by Berio in Palermo in 1968. This striking vocal presence interrupts and punctuates the instrumental flow with seven traditional street vendor songs, raw and direct in expression, transporting listeners into the vibrant soundscape of Sicily.

As Berio himself observed, these works aimed to bring greater awareness to folk music as one of the most fervent and authentic forms of human expression. In Naturale, popular music and avant-garde idioms are combined through extended instrumental techniques and mosaic-like construction, reflecting the multifaceted cultural influences of Sicily and the broader Mediterranean world.

20th January

CMA 9 - Conservatoire Municipal Nadia et Lili Boulanger > **AUDITORIUM**

17:30 - 18:00

MUSIC AND HISTORY

Project I49

LECTURE RECITAL

United Kingdom

Exile and Memory: The Viola as a Voice for Women Composers

Yona Zekri, viola
Guilhem Fabre, piano

Ruth Schönthal — Sonata Concertante for Viola and Piano
Ursula Mamlok — From My Garden for Solo Viola

This program highlights two major 20th-century composers who long remained in the shadows despite the strength of their work. Both Ruth Schönthal and Ursula Mamlok were forced into exile by Nazi persecution.

Schönthal's Sonata Concertante unfolds with a rich, expressive, and virtuosic writing style—where lyricism, rhythmic vitality, and echoes of displacement intertwine. In contrast, Mamlok's From My Garden opens a more intimate world: a series of poetic miniatures inspired by the contemplation of her New York garden, where memory and nature engage in quiet dialogue through striking simplicity.

Through these two works, the program restores voice to women whose artistic paths were interrupted by exile, yet whose music shines today with vitality and depth.



20 : 00

TABEA ZIMMERMANN

Orchestre de
Chambre Paris
Production

CONCERT

Germany



Orchestre de chambre de Paris

Gábor Káli, direction

Tabea Zimmermann, viola

Beethoven

Symphony No. 4 in B flat major, Op. 60

Kurtág

Movement for viola and orchestra

Signs, Games & Messages, excerpts

Bartók

Divertimento, first movement

Schubert

Symphony No. 8 « Unfinished », D. 759

Movement for Viola and Orchestra is a youthful work by Kurtág, and in 2026 we will celebrate the centenary of his birth. It is heavily influenced by his compatriot and predecessor Bartók, but also has slight undertones of Beethoven and Brahms. This "Romantic ballad" (to quote the composer) blends powerful orchestral passages and virtuoso interventions by a soloist who must take up the not inconsiderable challenge of playing in a high register. Tabea Zimmermann is a dream performer for this score: Kurtág dedicated Signs, Games & Messages to her with the words "... eine Blume für Tabea...". The conductor is another Hungarian, Gábor Káli, who has already conducted a Slav programme at the helm of the Orchestre de chambre de Paris in 2024. The other works by Schubert, Bartók and Beethoven which he conducts are also an extension of the homage to Kurtág. The discovery of Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony was the first musical shock experienced by the young Kurtág and he confesses: "this is the reason why I became a musician. My ideal of beauty is the slow movement of Schubert's 'Unfinished' Symphony". Composers from the past play a key role in the aesthetic of this composer who used to say: "my mother tongue is Bartók, and Bartók's mother tongue is Beethoven."

21th January

21.01

12:00 - 13:00

GENERAL REHEARSAL LAWRENCE POWER / GARTH KNOX

SFA Project

RECITAL REHEARSAL

World

Program

Garth Knox, viola and composer
Lawrence Power, viola
Ostinato Orchestra, with 14 musicians

Garth Knox — The Ancient Mariner: World premier of the viola concerto by Lawrence Power

14:00 - 17:00

PEDAGOGICAL DAY

SFA Project

RECITAL

France

Program

The Pedagogical Day brings together viola classes and ensembles from across France to share their work in a variety of creative formats. Throughout the day, students and teachers will present the outcome of their collective projects — through performances, ensemble showcases, workshops, and original presentations — celebrating the richness, diversity, and collaborative spirit of viola education today.

13:00 - 14:00

LUNCH



17:00 - 17:30

BREAK

17 : 30 - 19 : 00

GARTH KNOX LAWRENCE POWER / KIM KASHKASHIAN

IVS Invitation

RECITAL

Irish/UK/USA

Garth Knox, viola and composer
Lawrence Power, viola
Kim Kashkashian, viola
Agnès Vesterman, cello
Ostinato Orchestra, with 14 musicians

Garth Knox
New Spaces for solo viola

Luciano Berio
Duos for two violas

Garth Knox
Three Little Entropies

Garth Knox
Stranger for viola and viola d'amore

Erik Satie
Three pieces arranged for two violas and cello

INTERVAL

Garth Knox
The Ancient Mariner : World premiere of the viola concerto by
Lawrence Power

19 : 00 - 20 : 00

DINNER

20 : 30

TATJANA MASURENKO

IVS Invitation

RECITAL

Germany

Tatjana Masurenko, viola and viola d'amore
Florent Ling, piano
Trio Sypniewski, string trio
Shuichi Okada, violin
Kojiro Okada, piano

«Scene in the Azure Winds»

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Arias/Sonata

Piotr Ilitch Tchaïkovski
5 Miniatures for Viola and Piano (arranged by V.Borissowski)
„Nocturne" op.19, N.4
Snowdrop" op.37, N.4
„Autumn Song"(October)op.37, N.10
„Aveu Passionné" TH 148
„Valse Sentimentale" op.51, N.6

INTERVAL

Dmitri Terzakis
Songs without Words (3 songs) for solo viola

J.S. Bach/O. Lockenkopf (*1979)
Suite for Viola Solo
Central Asian Reflections on Bach for Viola and Viola d'amore

Joaquín Turina
Scène Andalouse for viola, piano and string quartet

10 : 00 - 13 : 00 **TABEA ZIMMERMANN**

IVS Invitation MASTERCLASS Germany

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

13 : 00 - 14 : 00 **LUNCH**

14 : 00 - 15 : 00 **THE PAGANINI CAPRICES PROJECT**

Project 133 RECITAL France

Paganini Caprices by Pierre Lenert

Pierre Lenert, viola
Etsuko Hirose, piano

Niccolò Paganini (1782–1840)
Caprice No. 2 – Moderato
Caprice No. 5 – Agitato
Caprice No. 9 – Allegretto
Caprice No. 13 – Allegro
Caprice No. 14 – Moderato
Caprice No. 15 – Posato
Caprice No. 18 Corrente – Allegro
Caprice No. 19 – Lento – Allegro Assai
Caprice No. 20 – Allegretto
Caprice No. 21 – Amorooso – Presto
Caprice No. 23 – Posato
Caprice No. 24 – Theme with Variations

Selected Caprices will be accompanied on piano in Robert Schumann's version.

 **Billaudot**
PARIS

Recording the complete Paganini Caprices on the viola, as I have done, only makes sense to me in connection with a working method and with the edition of the score that I have developed. It is a kind of large-scale "Paganini Project" that I wish to bring to life. In making this recording, I thought of future generations, of giving violists the opportunity to make these extraordinarily rich pieces their own—pieces that are both jubilant in their blend of brilliance and depth, of dazzling vitality and emotion, and sometimes even anxiety. Paganini not only surpassed, and by far, all his predecessors, but he also invented and achieved on his own technical challenges that were previously unknown. If the high register represents for him Paradise in contrast with the Hell of the low register, one can understand why Franz Schubert could say that he had heard an angel play. And indeed, Paganini profoundly influenced all the great Romantic musicians of his time—Schumann, Liszt, Brahms, and Rachmaninov among them.

15 : 00 - 16 : 00 **LIFE IN THE STRING QUARTET**

IVS Project LECTURE / WORKSHOP France

The Art of the String Quartet: Insights and Reflections

Miguel Da Silva, viola

In this talk, violist Miguel da Silva shares the artistic journey and long-term experience that have shaped his life within the world of string quartets. Rather than a practical coaching session, this workshop offers professional musicians an in-depth reflection on the quartet as a living organism—its inner dynamics, its evolving traditions, and the human relationships that define it. Drawing on his extensive career, Miguel da Silva discusses questions of identity, sound culture, collective responsibility, and the delicate balance between individual expression and shared artistic vision. This session invites seasoned performers to reconsider the quartet from a broader perspective, exploring its challenges, its ideals, and the profound musical and human dialogue at its core.



16:00 - 17:00 LEIPZIG

Project 210 SHARED RECITAL Germany

Viola Journey through space and time

Pauline Sachse (Viola Professor at HMT Leipzig) and her Viola Class.

J.S. Bach — Goldberg Variationen (Excerpts) arranged for three Violas by Pauline Sachse
P. Sachse — "Earth", "Secret" and „Shadows" for Viola Solo
R. Schumann — "Märchenbilder» (Excerpts) arranged for four Violas by Pauline Sachse
P. Sachse — "Hidden Spaces" for Viola Solo
P. Sachse — "Dance" for six Violas

Pauline Sachse, professor for viola at the HMT Leipzig, presents her new compositions and arrangements with her viola class. The concert explores the magic sound world and possibilities of viola playing with a focus on pieces related to Leipzig for solo viola and viola ensemble. Join us on a journey through space and time.

17:00 - 17:30 BREAK



17:30 - 18:30 MUSIC AND TALES

Project I39 SHARED RECITAL France

King Arthur

Angèle Pungier, viola
Inès Gabillet, récitante

Angèle Pungier — Compositions (2024 / 2025)
Scène I, dans la forêt de Brocéliande
Scène II, la complainte du roi Arthur
Scène III, Excalibur
Scène IV, la bête
Scène V, à la conquête du Graal

This recital offers a musical tale for audiences of all ages, inspired by the celebrated Breton legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Specially composed for solo viola, the music draws upon both the classical tradition and traditional Celtic melodies of Brittany, weaving them into a soundscape at once enchanting and mysterious. Through the interplay of narration and performance, the recital invites listeners on a journey into a world where myth and music meet, giving renewed voice to ancient legends.

Project I20 SHOW France

L'Arbre qui chantait le monde

Flavie Jeandel — flute
Anne Caloustian — viola
Nathalie Labbé — harp

Narrator : Graine de Perle
Text and conception : Trio FAH
English translation : Anne Caloustian
Production : Artevox Production

The performance draws inspiration from composers such as — Todd Mason, Adrienne Albert, Dan Locklair, Mel Bonis, Kaija Saariaho, Lili Boulanger, and World Music.

In the heart of Paris, in a small square in the 9th arrondissement, a magical tree shelters the soul of all instruments. In this musical tale, three young musicians discover: The Breath of Wind (flute), The Dance of Fire (viola), The Water of Memory (harp), The Earth of Roots (ensemble), and The Ether, or the Breath of the World (Finale).

Traveling across the five continents and the five elements, this tale evokes the magic of instrument-making, ecology, and the beauty of universal music.

09 : 30 - 10 : 00

RELAXATION

Project I2I

WORKSHOP

France

The Body... a Tuning Fork

Anne Caloustian, violist and workshop leader

Works by Ian Gammie, Kenneth Harding, Diego Montes, Christopher Lowry, and The Beatles.

The Body... a Tuning Fork invites participants to explore the musician's inner resonance through a living approach to breath, movement, and sound. Through simple somatic exercises, breathing work, and awareness of bodily resonators and posture, participants discover how the body itself becomes a true tuning fork — a vibrant space that amplifies the color, accuracy, and expressive freedom of the viola's sound.

Combining guided practice, individual and collective exploration, and moments of improvisation, this workshop encourages a free, joyful, and mindful approach to playing. Open to all levels, it offers practical tools to enrich one's tone, prevent physical tension, and rediscover the pleasure of musical movement.

Learning objectives:

- Connect breath, movement, and sound vibration
- Sense and activate the body's natural resonators
- Find balance between grounding and freedom of motion
- Cultivate a more intuitive and joyful relationship with the instrument

Project 54

WORKSHOP

USA/France

Decoding your Performance Profile: Understanding your Unique Stress Profile and Brave Antidotes

Sarah Niblack, The Practice Professor / SPARK Practice School

Not all stress is the same
Performance Profiles each have a dark side – but a Brave side as well
Confidence is a skill we can learn
Brave Antidotes are expert strategies adapted to unique Performance Profiles
Understanding our differences and similarities helps everyone be Brave on Stage

Neuroscience and Performance Science research shows that stress and performance anxiety manifest in different ways. Each performance profile has its own triggers and expressions. The encouraging news is that each also has tailored strategies and Brave Antidotes designed to build resilience, train the brain and nervous system, and ease performance anxiety—regardless of how stress appears.

By understanding these unique Performance Archetypes, performers can develop their nervous system for greater resilience while benefiting from specific Brave Antidotes that help them feel safe, confident, and authentic when it matters most.

In this workshop, the speaker presents eight Brave Performance Archetypes supported by current research, along with practical exercises to apply these strategies. Participants gain insight into their own profile, learn how to interact with other types, and leave with three actionable tools to feel confident when it counts.

Project I84

WORKSHOP

Netherland

Resonanzlehre - Sound/Body practice for violists

Animated by violist and certified Resonance trainer Yanna Pelser

The Resonanzlehre (or 'Resonance Training') is a sound-oriented movement practice for musicians. In this workshop we'll practice the basic balance exercises of this training, exercises that intensify the connection between hearing and moving.

Since all movements of the body are balanced via the balance organs, which are located in the inner ear, the balance organs connect the ears to all muscles in the body. This is an important connection for musicians. By truly listening to the full spectrum and resonance of the sound and allowing the body to balance, our muscles are optimally able to influence and change the sound as desired at any time.

This makes that unnecessary tensions and blocks don't arise, the musician is physically free to fully express into sound.

Before starting with some exercises, there will be a short introduction on:

- the relation between sound waves, space, the human body and the musical instrument
- the connection between hearing and moving (audio-motorics)
- the fundamentals of physical balance

Special attention goes to a resonant way of bowing, allowing all vibrations of the oscillating string to enter the balancing body and evoke a rich and expressive sound.

11 : 00 - 13 : 00

PEDAGOGY AND INNOVATION

Project 48

WORKSHOP

USA

Simple Solutions: A New Look at Old Problems in Viola Pedagogy

Dr. Alice Lindsay, viola
Carol Gimbel, viola

The workshop will use technical excerpts from Mazas, Sevcik, Paganini, and others.

A practical and engaging workshop for teachers, students, and professionals exploring fresh, research-informed approaches to common technical challenges. Topics include shifting, intonation, bow control, and ergonomic comfort—all grounded in pedagogical heritage and enriched by contemporary insights. Participants will leave with studio-ready tools to improve fluency, ease, and artistic fulfillment.

13:00 - 14:00 LUNCH

14:00 - 16:00 **BAROQUE & ROMANTIC TRANSCRIPTIONS**

Project 103 WORKSHOP

Colombia

The First Complete Transcription for Viola and Basso Continuo of the Mystery (Rosary) Sonatas by H.F. Biber

Gabriel Mateo Forero Villamizar, viola

Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber (1644–1704) – The Mystery (Rosary) Sonatas for Viola and Basso Continuo (transcribed by Gabriel Forero Villamizar)

This lecture approaches the origin of the first complete edition for viola and basso continuo of the Mystery (Rosary) Sonatas by H.F. Biber. It discusses elements ranging from the mythical name of the work and its meaning, the process of thoroughly understanding the original manuscript, the use of its multiple scordaturas, the analysis of its different violin editions throughout history and their editorial choices, its extra musical elements, and the construction of this first complete edition for viola. It will also present some of the technical challenges of constructing this transcription, the interpretation of the work as a complete cycle, and the projects and ideas for continuing to develop and perform this work as a living and evolving art form. Finally, this space seeks to be an invitation to the viola community to study and interpret the work.



Project 50

SHARED RECITAL

USA

Evolving Voices: Lillian Fuchs's Sonata Pastorale and the Romantic Reinvention of Niels Gade's Viola Sonatas

Katrin Meidell, viola
N.N., piano

Niels Gade (1817–1890) — Sonata No. 2 in D minor, Op. 21a

- I. Adagio, Allegro di molto
- II. Larghetto
- III. Adagio, Allegro moderato

Lillian Fuchs (1902–1995) — Sonata pastorale

The Romantic viola repertoire is relatively limited, yet Niels Gade (1817–1890) offers a rich and rarely explored contribution. Best known for his orchestral and choral works, Gade composed two violin sonatas—Op. 6 in A major and Op. 21 in D minor—that adapt beautifully to the viola. This presentation focuses on the D minor Sonata, whose lyricism, dark timbre, and expressive power resonate deeply with the instrument. Influenced by Mendelssohn and Schumann, but marked by Gade's Nordic voice, the work gains new dimensions in Heinrich Dessauer's viola transcription, where phrases feel more grounded and textures more resonant.

Alongside Gade, this program highlights Sonata Pastorale by Lillian Fuchs (1902–1995), a pioneering violist whose legacy bridges performance, pedagogy, and composition. Written for solo viola, the sonata reveals her most expansive and personal voice: modal colors, contrapuntal textures, and idiomatic writing that balance pedagogical clarity with concert expressivity. Together, these works invite a reimagining of the viola's repertoire, linking Romantic reinvention to modern artistry.

Project 189

RECITAL

Norway

Celebrating Franco-Romanian Friendship

Elias Goldstein, Viola
Angela Draghicescu, Piano

Paul Constantinescu — Cantec Vechi (Old Song) arr. E. Goldstein (2024)

Andante con passione, Andantino poco mosso (tempo di hora)

Cesar Franck — Sonata in A major, arr. E. Goldstein (2025) for viola and piano

Allegretto ben moderato

Allegro

Recitativo-Fantasia

Allegretto poco mosso

George Enescu — Aubade, for viola and Piano, arr. E. Goldstein (world Premiere arrangement 2025)

Allegretto grazioso

The program celebrates the Franco-Romanian diplomatic relationships and influence with a new arrangement of Cesar Franck's sonata in A major arranged by E. Goldstein, and Enescu's Piece de Concert, which was used as an exam piece written in 1906 for the class of Theophile LaForge at the Paris Conservatory, combining elements of French impressionism with hints of Romanian folk music. The Program is completed with a world premiere arrangement for viola and piano of Aubade by Enescu, and Paul Constantinescu's Cantec Vechi, which is influenced by byzantine modal harmony, and traditional romanian folk elements including the hora.

21th January

Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique >

16:00 - 17:00

PEDAGOGY AND INNOVATION

Project 47

LECTURE

USA

Reimagining the Bow Arm: ViolaXR and the Future of Viola Pedagogy in Virtual Reality

Katherine Lewis, viola

Percival Hodgson's landmark Motion Study and Violin Bowing (1958) remains one of the most thorough analyses of the bow arm ever published. Nearly fifty years later, advances in virtual reality make it possible to bring his work to life in three-dimensional space. This session introduces ViolaXR, a VR app designed to analyze and visualize bow mechanics for both pedagogy and research. Attendees will see side-by-side comparisons of Hodgson's original line drawings with 3D visualizations created in VR, illustrating how immersive technology can expand upon earlier scholarship. Demonstrations will highlight ViolaXR's motion-tracking capabilities—capturing bow speed, placement, distribution, rotation, and bounce height—along with a built-in spectrogram that connects movement to sound in real time. Preliminary results from an ongoing research study with student and professional violists will also be shared, pointing toward applications in lessons, repertoire preparation, and individualized practice. The session concludes with a look at current challenges and the broader potential of VR in string pedagogy and performance research.

Project 34

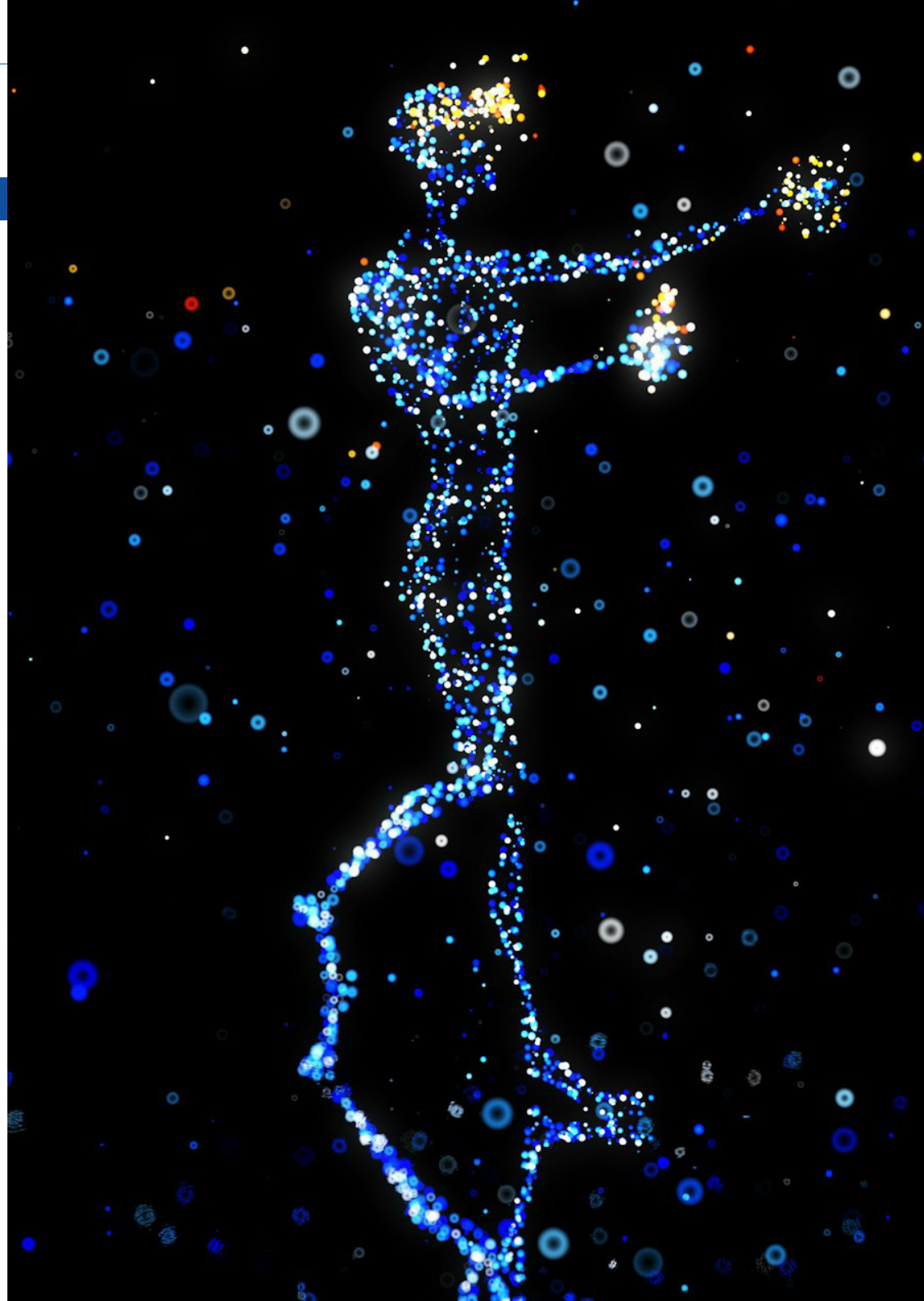
LECTURE

USA

Finding Center - Principles of Left Hand Balance and Alignment

Daniel Gee Cordova, viola

As violists we have to approach many different proportions in our bodies and our instruments in order to play in an ergonomically healthy way. In this session, we will discuss how finding the center of balance of the hand and using different formulas of fingerings can allow students to rebalance the Left Hand for ease, fluency, and intonation accuracy. We will discuss and apply these concepts for foundational set up but also apply this concept to artistic mastery of finger action, intonation accuracy, vibrato, shifting and double stops.



21th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris >

Salon VINTEUIL

10 : 00 - 13 : 00

KIM KASHKASHIAN

IVS Invitation

CHAMBER MUSIC MASTERCLASS

United Kingdom

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

13 : 00 - 14 : 00

LUNCH

14 : 00 - 15 : 00

THE CNSMDP INSTRUMENT COLLECTION

IVS Project

PRESENTATION

France

A journey through the history, craftsmanship, and stories behind the conservatory's remarkable instruments

Julien Dubois

Explore the rich and diverse collection of instruments at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris (CNSMDP). This session offers musicians, students, and enthusiasts a unique opportunity to learn about the history, craftsmanship, and characteristics of the conservatory's instruments—from historic violins and violas to contemporary creations. Participants will gain insights into instrument selection, preservation, and the stories behind some of the most remarkable pieces in the collection.

15 : 00 - 16 : 00

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Project 2II

WORKSHOP

USA

A Holistic Daily Warm-Up Routine for the Healthy and Happy Violist

Carol Rodland, viola

In this workshop, we will explore together some mindful and dynamic ways to get ourselves ready for a beautiful day of music-making, including warm-ups for our bodies and minds, as well as some viola-specific postural, left-hand, and right-hand concepts and exercises which can help us to stay in the best possible shape for our daily lives as performing violists.

This approach to life as a "Healthy and Happy Violist" is an amalgamation of my many years of study of the Feldenkrais Method, Alexander Technique, Pilates, Yoga, and meditation, as well as my close work with my beloved mentors Karen Tuttle and Kim Kashkashian, and my wonderful "Tuttle Family" of colleagues. I will demonstrate in this workshop some of the skills discussed in "The Karen Tuttle Legacy" (a book I co-wrote with Jeffrey Irvine, Kim Kashkashian, Michele LaCourse, Lynne Ramsey, and Karen Ritscher, which was published by Carl Fischer in 2020 and is available wherever you purchase your books) and I will share with you some specific approaches to my favorite Dounis exercises, "slow fast practice", inchworm shifts, Squeegie Bows, and more! Please feel free to bring your violas so that we can try some of these skills out together!

09:30 - 11:00

VIOLA ORCHESTRA

IVS Project

A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

World

Program

A large viola orchestra bringing together amateur and professional musicians from around the world. This collective project embodies the spirit of sharing and togetherness that lies at the heart of the congress, where everyone can take part in the viola's unique sound.

11:00 - 12:00

WESTERN MUSIC

Project I07

LECTURE RECITAL

Spain

Contemporary Spanish Viola

Cecilia Bercovich, viola

Teresa Catalán — Ezinbesteko Muga for solo viola
Gustavo Díaz Jerez — El libro de arena for solo viola
Joan Magrané — Dos Aiguaforts for solo viola
César Viana — Sonata for solo viola (world premiere)

«Neither the book nor the sand has a beginning or an end» (Borges).
The same can be said for the viola repertoire — fortunately! In this presentation, we will explore the latest creations for viola by Spanish composers. The program includes works by Catalán, Díaz-Jerez, Magrané, and many others... To conclude, we will have the pleasure of hearing a world premiere specially commissioned for the Congress.

Project I12

LECTURE RECITAL

Spain

El libro de las nubes (The Book of Clouds)

Dúo Pole:
Santiago Velo, viola
Roberto Marina, guitar
Sebastián Wise, composer

Sebastián Wise — Excerpts from The Book of Clouds (2008–)
Nube homopatociclo [duckman-cycle cloud] (2019)
Prelude "in statu nascendi" (2024)
Nube de los nudos [Cloud of knots] (2018)
Triptico sobre un campo de cebada [Triptych about a barley field] (2025)
Cauce de espuma [Foam channel] (2025)
Nube griscálida [Grey-warm cloud] (2025)

Sebastián Wise presents the complete series of pieces for viola and guitar from his work El libro de las nubes (2008–), a project that explores the irruption of the fragmentary into the continuity of silence. The works were written for Duo Pole, formed by Iago Velo and Roberto Marina, who will premiere some of them at this Congress.

12:00 - 13:00

FORGOTTEN REPERTOIRE

Project I0

SHARED RECITAL

USA

Charles Martin Loeffler's Unpublished Songs for Viola, Voice, and Piano: A Rediscovery

Ruben Balboa, alto
Samantha Balboa, voice
Jeanne Hourez, piano

Charles Martin Loeffler (1861–1935)
La chanson des Ingénues
Rêverie en sourdine
La lune blanche
Harmonie du soir
Le rossignol

This recital presents five unpublished chamber works by Charles Martin Loeffler (1861–1935) for viola, voice, and piano — a rare opportunity to hear music that bridges French Symbolist poetry and post-Romantic harmonic color. Uniting lyrical poetry by Verlaine and Baudelaire with Loeffler's distinctive timbral imagination, these works highlight the viola as an equal, expressive partner in vocal chamber music.

Loeffler, the Prussian-born American composer and former assistant concertmaster of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, was celebrated for his refined harmonic language and literary sensibility. While his Two Rhapsodies and Quatre Poèmes, Op. 5 are well known, these five songs—long forgotten and unpublished during his lifetime—were only made available posthumously through the work of musicologist Ellen Knight (Library of Congress, 1988).

Aligned with the 2026 Congress theme New Horizons: Celebrating Legacy and Diversity, this program revives neglected repertoire and honors the complex cultural identity of Loeffler—German-born, French-influenced, and American-based. Through these rediscovered works, the recital celebrates the viola's lyrical voice and reclaims Loeffler's rightful place within the chamber music tradition.

Project 63

SHARED RECITAL

USA

Scharwenka "Fantasia" Sonata for Viola and Piano: A Forgotten Masterpiece

Daniel Sweaney, viola
Lynn Kompass, piano

Philipp Scharwenka (1847–1917) — Sonata "Fantasia" for Viola and Piano, Op. 106 (1899) Moderato – Allegretto – Allegro

Philipp Scharwenka's Sonata "Fantasia" for viola and piano in G minor, Op. 106, is a richly expressive and underperformed work that deserves renewed attention from violists and concert audiences alike. With its emotional depth, idiomatic writing for both viola and piano, and tonal clarity, this sonata is a compelling addition to the Romantic viola repertoire—particularly for performers seeking to expand beyond the standard sonatas. Although the work was first published in 1905, it has received limited performances despite being both rewarding and accessible for advanced students and professional performers alike. The first movement, Fantasia, presents rhapsodic, free, gypsy-like motivic material that showcases the viola's ability to be lyrical, intense, and virtuosic. The second movement, by contrast, is an elegant Allegretto, marked by repose and introspection; its long melodic lines and harmonic nuance highlight the instrument's unique character. The sonata concludes with a robust and rhythmically vital third movement, displaying Scharwenka's command of structure and contrast.

13 : 00 - 14 : 00 LUNCH

14 : 00 - 15 : 00 WESTERN & AFRICAN MUSIC

Project 134 RECITAL France

Constellations: A Journey with the Viola

Guillaume Leroy, viola
N.N, piano



Camille Pépin — Au Cœur de la Terre
Guillaume Connesson — Constellation de la Couronne Boréale
Guillaume Connesson — Constellation de la Couronne Australe

This project is a journey of discovery — unveiling new and previously unpublished works for viola and piano. Among them, *Au Cœur de la Terre* by Camille Pépin, written especially for me, invites us into her imaginative and vividly poetic universe, where sound becomes color and emotion takes shape. Guillaume Connesson's *Constellations* opens another door, leading us through a celestial landscape filled with magic and wonder. Together, these works illuminate my latest album, *Constellations: A Viola Journey* — a voyage through worlds both real and imagined.

Project I RECITAL South Africa

Sidlala, siyamamela ("we play, we listen")

Jan-Hendrik Harley, Daphne Gerling, Louise Lansdown, Jeanne-Louise Moolman, violas

Three Preludes, for viola quartet — Traditional, arranged by Jan-Hendrik Harley (b.1980)
Prelude I - Ingoma yomntwana / Prelude II - berceuse / Prelude III - cantiga de ninar

Sidlala Siyamamela, for solo viola and shadow trio — Jan-Hendrik Harley (world premiere)
I Shukuma (Move) / II Chukumisa (Touch) / III Invakalelo (Experience) / IV Gubungela (Envelop)

The programme *Sidlala, Siyamamela* explores performance as a collaborative act of creation and interpretation. Opening with three evocative lullabies — one South African, one French and one Brazilian — these preludes weave together threads of heritage, invention, and shared musical intimacy that prepares the audience for the central work. The four-movement composition *Sidlala, Siyamamela* (isiXhosa for "We play, we listen") refracts elements of traditional Xhosa uhadi bow music — not through direct quotation but as a conceptual impulse. Rather than attempting to replicate the sound of the uhadi, the piece lets its gestures resonate in transformed ways, allowing traditional ideas to be reinterpreted across instruments, contexts, and temporalities. The ensemble is divided into a solo viola and a viola trio. The viola or 'shadow' trio acts as both acoustic frame and dialogic partner, echoing, interrupting, and reconfiguring the soloist's material in ways that evoke ritual, play, and attentive reciprocity. *Sidlala, Siyamamela* presents a performance in which sound is always in dialogue — with space, with history, with other voices. It resists the idea of tradition as static, instead exploring how cultural memory can be re-voiced in unfamiliar registers. In doing so, it asks what it means to listen across difference — not only between performers and audiences, or between instruments and idioms, but across the porous line between past and present, gesture and resonance, self and other.

15 : 00 - 16 : 00 AMERICAN MUSIC

Project 2I RECITAL USA

Air and Resonance: New Music for Viola d'Amore and Flute

Matthew Dane, viola d'amore
Christina Jennings, flute

Conor Abbott Brown — Three movements from Suite (2017)
Jonah Sirota — Entanglement for flute and viola d'amore (2020)
Dianna Link — Wind Whispers for flute and viola d'amore (2021)
Marcus Maroney — First movement from The Seven Selves (2016)
Reena Esmail — Nishani (2014)
Jake Heggie — Soliloquy (2012), arranged for flute and viola d'amore

This program features recent works for the viola d'amore, including solo pieces and duets with flute. All compositions were commissioned or specially arranged by the performers, highlighting the instrument's rich expressive potential. Through these works, the unique voice of the viola d'amore is brought to the forefront, offering new perspectives and possibilities in today's musical landscape.

Project 43 SHARED RECITAL USA

Nostalgia & Laments (New music for unaccompanied viola and viola duo)

Michelle LaCourse, viola
Daniel Doña, viola

Martin Amlin (b.1953) — Ephemeroptera Redux (2025)
M. Amlin — Lullaby (for two violas) (2025)
Elena Ruehr (b.1963) — Nostalgia (for two violas) (2025)
John Steinmetz (b.1951) — Lament: Chaconne (2020)
(Arranged for viola by M. LaCourse)

In «Nostalgia & Laments» violist Michelle LaCourse presents a selection of wonderfully moody, richly eclectic, and evocative short pieces for solo viola and for viola duo joined by violist Daniel Doña. Each piece was written for LaCourse since 2020.

11:00 - 12:00 TRADITIONAL PEDAGOGY

Project I17 LECTURE RECITAL **Finland**

Presentation of Ellen's Viola Album for Young Violists

Harri Wessman, presenter, composer
Ellen Herler, viola
Ella Gardini, piano

Harri Wessman — Visegrád, Carita's Song, Dorian March, Third Avenue, Clumsy, The Slide, Karelian Dance, Let Us Remember Johannes, and Perpetuum Mobile

In this presentation, Finnish composer Harri Wessman will personally introduce his Viola Album, consisting of nine moderately difficult pieces for viola and piano, intended for young musicians, published by Fennica Gehrman Oy. Wessman will provide context for this fluid and melodic music, highlighting its particular pedagogical features—unusual meters, glissandi, effects, and harmonies not often found in standard teaching practice.

12:00 - 13:00 ENGAGED MUSIC

Project I91 SHARED RECITAL **Netherland**

Paradise Lost, Voices Rising: Music and Poetry from Ukraine and Taiwan

Alto Nova
Emlyn Stam viola
Sherry Grant, piano

Valentine Silvestrov (b.1937) – Kitsch Music (1977) (worlds premiere arr. Stam/Grant, 2025)
I. Allegro vivace (bright and translucent, free, trembling but tranquil)
II. Moderato (bright and translucent, flowing)
III. Allegretto (free, very soft and translucent, distant (extremely soft))
IV. Moderato (free, bright and translucent, introspective)
V. Allegretto (soft, bright and translucent with circumspection)
Fu Tong Wong (b.1948) – Taiwanese Aboriginal Suite (world premiere arr. Stam/Grant, 2025)
I. Cradle
II. Proposal of Marriage
III. Farewell
IV. Celebration

Paradise Lost, Voices Rising — a recital by Alto Nova (violinist Emlyn Stam and pianist Sherry Grant) — interweaves music, poetry, and photography in an exploration of identity, memory, and resilience. The program features two world premieres from Ukraine and Taiwan, reimagined for the 2026 International Viola Congress.

At its heart is Kitsch Music (1977) by Valentin Silvestrov, newly arranged for viola and piano, whose five delicate movements reflect his luminous "metamusic" style—balancing nostalgia, irony, and quiet introspection.

Also premiering, Fu Tong Wong's Taiwanese Aboriginal Suite evokes indigenous rituals of life and love through lyrical and rhythmic interplay. Projected poetry and photography from both cultures create a multisensory experience, expressing Alto Nova's mission to expand the viola-piano repertoire through cross-cultural collaboration.

Project 202 SHARED RECITAL **Taiwan**

Tides of Memory: Music Echoing Taiwan's Historical Silence

Taiwan Radiant Ensemble
Shu-Ching HSU, viola
Sabina Shu-Chun CHIANG, flute
Chao-Pei CHEN, harp

Yi-Cheng CHIANG — L.E.F.T, Trio for viola, flute and harp (2025)
Yuan-Chen LI — Compassion in Motion – The Heart Sutra and Hakka Resonance, Trio for viola, flute and harp (2025)
Ching-Yu HSIAU — Breeze – Trio for Flute, Viola and Harp (2025)

This 25-minute shared recital presents chamber works for flute, viola, and harp by three Taiwanese women composers, each offering a unique reflection on Taiwan's historical and spiritual landscapes.

Yi-Cheng Chiang – Tides of Memory explores Taiwan's cultural pluralism and its dialogue with France's ideals of liberty and unity. Blending past and present, the trio embodies diversity and expressive freedom.

Yuan-Chen Li – Compassion in Motion draws inspiration from the Buddhist Heart Sutra and Hakka heritage, reimagining spiritual depth and migration history through meditative textures and echoes of traditional bayin instruments.

Ching-Yu Hsiau – Breeze opens and closes with harp sounds like a gentle wind, weaving motifs from Hakka folksongs into layered harmonies that merge folk resonance with Western timbres.

13:00 - 14:00 LUNCH



14 : 00 - 16 : 00

MUSIC FROM EASTERN EUROPE

Project 194

LECTURE RECITAL

Poland

How fascinating is violist's life with flute and harp - or piano. 30 years of playing with friends.

Aleksandra Batog, viola
Zofia Antes, piano

Paul Hindemith – Sonata for viola and piano op.11 nr. 4
Johannes Brahms – Sonata op.120 Nr. 1 for piano and viola (11 Andante un poco adagio)

A concert combined with a lecture. Trio – viola, flute, and harp – and viola and piano duo. Stories related to the ensembles and repertoire, as well as the artistic journey from the very beginning to the present day. Friends, masterpieces, commissions – how they transform us and make our journey richer and happier. In the trio – a wonderful repertoire from the very first piece – Dubois' Terzettino, through Debussy's masterpiece, which was written shortly afterwards, to the blossoming of contemporary works! Pieces written for our ensemble, exploring such different areas. And great joy – when you play with active and talented people, you can not only add up your achievements but also have a great time – the potential resulting from the diversity of personalities, talents, and repertoires often exceeds your own. Added to this is the uniqueness of the viola's sound in these ensembles – in a trio with flute and harp, it takes on a new life, and with the piano, it gains a powerful exposition of its voice! These reflections will be accompanied by Hindemith's Sonata and Brahms' beloved Andante – interpreted again – after 30 years.

Project 196

RECITAL

Poland

Poland meet Chile

Wojciech Kołaczzyk, viola
Carola Fredes, viola

Jean Daniel Barahona Z. (1986)/Chile — Suite chilena a dos violas - by the Chilean composer
Piotr Klimek (1973)/Poland — Jare Gody (eng. Vigorous Feast) for viola duo
Przemysław Pujanek (1992)/Poland — El mar llora a lo lejos

The program combines musical traditions, the aim being to unite two nations in the field of musical interpretation. The violists Wojciech Kołaczzyk (Poland) and Carola Fredes (Chile) will be responsible for carrying out this musical union between both nations. The history of each country has played a fundamental role in the development of the musical scene. Both Chile and Poland have undergone significant cultural, political, and economic changes, leading each of them to develop a diverse and multifaceted musical style. Both countries have managed to carve out a path and achieve their own voice in the field of music. Throughout the history of both countries, economic, political, and cultural cooperation has existed intermittently, leaving a trail of instability in the bilateral relationship. However, since 1990, with the onset of democracy in Chile, international relations between Chile and Poland have been maintained to this day. We will celebrate and commemorate this intercultural union, and in this case, musical, by performing works created by Chilean and Polish composers during the 50th congress of the "International Viola Society."

Project 195

SHARED RECITAL

Poland

Farewell

Bogusława Hubisz-Sielska – Viola
Mariusz Sielski – Piano

Ernest Bloch — Meditation and Processional for Viola and Piano (1951)
Marcel Chyrzyński — Farewell (2013) *World premiere version for Viola (2025) and Piano
Witold Lutosławski — Preludia taneczne (1954)

The year 1951 saw the birth of five works for viola and piano by Ernest Bloch. Three of these were included in the Suite hébraïque. The remaining two pieces were combined into a Diptych, containing Meditation and Processional. (In 1959, the still unfinished Suite for solo viola was composed.) Marcel Chyrzyński (1971) has already established himself as one of Poland's leading composers. Farewell for cello and piano was written in 2013. The composition was inspired by the poem «Wakare» («Separation») by the Japanese poet Nakano Shigeharu (1902-1979). In 2025, a version for viola and piano was written, which will have its premiere at the 50th IVC. The transcription of Witold Lutosławski's Dance Preludes for clarinet and piano, commissioned by PWM Edition in 1954 and prepared with the composer's consent and in accordance with his instructions, was first performed by us in 1992 in Munich, and in 2004 – ten years after the composer's death – it was published by PWM Edition in accordance with his wishes.

Project 192

RECITAL

Poland

Viola dedications - solo, duo, trio and quartet

Lech Balaban, viola
Agnieszka Balaban, cello
Jan Balaban, violin
Krzysztof Sowirski, piano

Ewa Fabiańska-Jelińska — Menojre for viola solo (2020)
Marcin Kopczyński — Intermezzo for viola and piano (2013)
Piotr Wróbel — Little Happy Jazz Trio for viola, cello and piano (2016)
Sławomir Czarnecki — Kwartet Lechicki for violin, viola, cello and piano (2024) Part III Finale
Piotr Moss — Valse pour quatre for violin, viola, cello and piano (2019)

The project presents the latest works by Polish composers featuring the viola, most of which are dedicated to us. Some of these composers studied in Paris, Piotr Moss with Nadia Boulanger, and Sławomir Czarnecki with Olivier Messiaen.

21th January

CMA 9 - Conservatoire Municipal Nadia et Lili Boulanger >

14 : 00 - 15: 00

ELECTRONIC

Project 197

LECTURE RECITAL

Poland

VIOLAND - Polish heritage for viola solo and electronics

Krzysztof Komendarek-Tymendorf, viola, electronics, samples, objects
Dariusz Mazurowski, electronics, synthesizers (analog and digital, hardware and VST), effects, soundprocessing, computer

Dariusz Mazurowski, Krzysztof Komendarek-Tymendorf — Waveless Storm for viola and tape (ALTOTRONICA Album, Centaur Records, 2025, USA) / world premiere
Krzysztof Wolek — Shadowings for viola and live electronics (ALTOTRONICA Album, Centaur Records, 2025, USA)
Dariusz Mazurowski, Krzysztof Komendarek-Tymendorf — Extreme Dissonant Alchemy for viola and electronics (EXTRÉMUS Album, 2026) / world premiere
Paweł Kwapiński — Music for Viola (2025) / world premiere
Zuzanna Ossowska, Krzysztof Komendarek-Tymendorf — MonoTony / The beginning for viola, FX piano and soundscapes (VIOLAND Album, Polish Radio Music Agency, 2025, PL / Hungaroton Records 2026) / world premiere

An oral presentation dedicated to the Polish musical heritage for viola and electronics, along with the presentation of the speaker's latest albums, published by prestigious international labels: Centaur Records (USA), Odradek Records (USA), Hungaroton Records (Hungary), and Polish Radio Music Agency (Poland).

This concert presents selected works from the albums VIOLAND, ALTOTRONICA, EXTRÉMUS, NORTH WAVES GDAŃSK CONTEMPORARY MUSIC, and LANDING PLACE. Each explores the meeting point between the viola and electronic sound—a groundbreaking field in Polish music.

In these works, the viola moves beyond its melodic role to become a percussive, experimental instrument, shaped by contemporary techniques such as tapping, Bartók pizzicato, bow pressure, scordatura, and electronically processed timbres that often evoke the sonority of a synthesizer. Blending contemporary, experimental, electronic, and neoclassical styles, these compositions challenge traditional boundaries, revealing new sonic landscapes where raw energy, emotion, and innovative sound design combine in a strikingly original artistic vision.



15 : 00 - 17 : 00

CLIMATE

Project 99

LECTURE RECITAL

Canada

Sounding Tornadoes

Sharon Wei, viola
Emily Hiemstra, viola, composer
Cian Diamond, viola
Lincoln St John, viola

Emily Hiemstra — Didsbury for viola quartet (2024)
Ian Cusson — La Pietà after Monkman
Emily Hiemstra — La Malbaie for viola quartet (2026)

This program will present music inspired by the Northern Tornadoes Project (NTP) and other climate-related music. We will perform Emily Hiemstra's Didsbury for Viola quartet. Didsbury was one of the strongest tornadoes recorded in Alberta's history. Short score-studies with audio examples from three 2025 String quartets inspired by NTP will be discussed as well as excerpts from Saman Shah's new viola concerto which Sharon Wei will premiere in Montreal in January 2026 after the Congress. Cian Diamond will talk about their summer internship project researching viola repertoire themed on Water. Cian will perform Metis-Canadian composer Ian Cusson's work for solo viola "La Pietà after Monkman". The lecture recital will culminate in a world premiere of a new viola quartet by Emily Hiemstra «Ruisseau for Viola Quartet»

Project 98

LECTURE RECITAL

Canada

Canadian Landscapes: A Multimedia Journey for Solo, Duo, and Trio Viola

Ryan Vis, viola
Marina Akamatsu, viola
Michael Tan, composer
Zachary Greer, composer
Leo Purich, composer and viola
Anika-France Forget, composer
Scott Forsyth, photographer
Yuli Chouinard, fashion designer

Zachary Greer
Michael Tan
Leo Purich
Anika-France Forget

This immersive performance for solo, duo, and trio viola, presented by Ryan Vis, explores the vastness and beauty of the Canadian landscape through music, photography, and fashion. Four new works by Canadian composers Zachary Greer, Michael Tan, Leo Purich, and Anika-France Forget are inspired by projected photographs of award-winning landscape photographer Scott Forsyth. This multidisciplinary collaboration transforms Canada's geography into an evocative dialogue of sound and image. Fashion designer Yuli Chouinard creates a bespoke outfit for the performance, designed specifically for classical musicians, adding a distinctive visual and conceptual dimension to the experience.

Project 96

LECTURE RECITAL

Canada

Northwest Passage, Thirteen Climate Alarms From the Arctic, for thirteen violas

Joanna Hood, Mieka Michaux, Isabelle Roland, Julien Haynes, Calvin Yang, Jessica Pickersgill, Farrah O'Shea, Andrew Loe, Kathryn Wiebe, Guyonne Le Louarn, Natasha Galitzine, Joshua Gomberoff, violas
Ajtony Csaba, conductor

David A. Jaffe (1955)

Shrinking Ice Sheets / Sea Level Rise / Warming Oceans / Narwhal / Global Temperature Rise / Polar Bear / Caribou / Extreme Events / Beluga / Melting Sea Ice / Feedback Loop / Glacial Retreat / One Planet

Sought for five centuries by European explorers as a sea route to China, the Northwest Passage was finally achieved by Roland Amundsen in 1906 and represented both a triumph of navigation and a shrinking of the globe. Today's situation is more ominous, with melting ice gouging unprecedented new «passages» through the Arctic, threatening ancient ways of life and signaling a global crisis.

«Northwest Passages, thirteen alarms from the Arctic» is a musical soundscape that invokes the Arctic panorama and its contemporary disruption. Its thirteen diverse sections, presented as one continuous movement, represent the composer's latest exploration of same-instrument orchestration (along with works for 5 double basses, 8 cellos, 8 guitars and 10 flutes.) The unique timbre of thirteen distinct viola parts enables massive textures suggesting glacial layering, sliding, splitting, melting and deformation. In addition, the instruments merge in various combinations, with solo passages from the 13th viola providing a lone personal voice.

This work was commissioned by Joanna Hood.

Project 100

LECTURE RECITAL

China

A fusion of East and West: Marco Polo Suite for Viola, Erhu and Orchestra

Zi Ye, viola

Enjott Schneider (b. 1950) — Marco Polo Suite for viola, erhu, and orchestra
Crossing the taklamakan
Mongolian horses
Tea house in hangzhou
Homesickness and farewell

Inspired by the legendary Silk Road journey of Venetian explorer Marco Polo, who traveled from Italy to China during the Yuan Dynasty, this compelling suite bridges East and West through a unique dialogue between viola and erhu. Drawing from the composer's acclaimed 2018 opera Marco Polo, the suite reimagines key musical themes in a vibrant, purely instrumental form. Each movement traces a phase of Polo's journey — from Venice to the court of Kublai Khan — blending Western harmonies with Eastern modal melodies and rhythms. Rich in cultural resonance and sonic color, the Marco Polo Suite is a moving tribute to exploration, transformation and the timeless power of cultural exchange.

22th January

22.01

22th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris >

Salle d'orgue

10:00 - 11:00 PRESENTATION OF VIOLA SOCIETIES

Project I55

RECITAL

World

IVS presents: International Viola Society Iuventus

Sylvén van Sasse van Ysselt, viola

N.N

The International Viola Society Iuventus is proud to present a diverse group of talented young violists from around the world. In this special recital, we invite you to join us on a journey of musical discovery and cultural exchange.

Featuring solo and ensemble performances, our concert will take you on tour through various countries and styles. Through this project, we aim to highlight the importance of cultural exchange. We believe that we can learn so much by sharing our stories, traditions, and passions through music and art. We strive to inspire a new generation of violists and audiences alike to appreciate the beauty of diversity.

To complement the music, we have also curated a selection of visual art and dance pieces that reflect the diversity and creativity of our performers. This eclectic mix will not only enhance your musical experience but also provide a fascinating glimpse into the richness of global cultures.

Join us for an unforgettable recital of music, art, and cultural exchange as we celebrate the Iuventus diverse members.

Project I86

LECTURE RECITAL

Netherland

Introducing the Historical Viola & Violin Society (HVVS)

Antoinette Lohmann, viola
Roald van Os, viola
Jörn Boysen, harpsichord

A very short introduction of mission and vision of the Historical Viola & Violin Society (HVVS)

A short lecture/recital on HIPP and rhetoric with Powerpoint

A HIPP performance played by 3 Dutch musicians on historical instruments, with prof. Jörn Boysen on harpsichord

The recently established Historical Viola & Violin Society (HVVS), based in the Netherlands, offers valuable perspectives for violists and audiences worldwide. The Society promotes the understanding of repertoire through its original historical and cultural context, demonstrating how this approach can enrich both performance and interpretation. Relevant to amateurs and professionals alike, historically informed playing is not limited to early instruments; its principles can also be applied to modern violas, broadening artistic and professional opportunities.

The HVVS also highlights the wealth of forgotten viola repertoire from earlier centuries—music that not only expands the known repertoire but often provides an ideal platform for developing new interpretive insights. Furthermore, the Society explores the distinctive sound aesthetics of historical violas: their construction, period bows, and gut strings create a timbre and response as unique as the difference between the harpsichord and the modern piano.

In this presentation, the founders and core members of the HVVS introduce the society's mission and showcase the expressive possibilities of the viola within the context of historical performance practice.

11:00 - 12:00 TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Project I74

RECITAL

Lithuania

Troubadour - New Norwegian Folk Romantic Music for Singing Violist

Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota, viola and sing

Kjell Marcussen — La Via
Vidar Kristensen — Land of rain and songs
Tirill Mohn — Nightscapes
Vidar Kristensen — Mountain people
Trad / Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota — Greensleeves
Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota — Hope

Povilas Syrrist-Gelgota presents Troubadour, a unique solo recital in which he combines viola performance, singing, and whistling to create an innovative and deeply personal musical language. Often described as a modern troubadour, he transforms the stage into a space for stories as much as for music, establishing a vivid connection with his audience.

The program features newly composed Norwegian works written specifically for him, enriched by inspirations from folk traditions across the globe. With this repertoire, he has performed more than a hundred concerts in twelve countries, captivating audiences through a musical journey that blends cultures, emotions, and expressions. The Paris performance will showcase works by Norwegian composers alongside his own compositions, offering listeners a singular and immersive artistic experience.

12:00 - 13:00

LUNCH

13 : 00 - 15 : 00

AFRICAN WORLD MUSIC

Project 26

RECITAL

USA

Echoes of Egypt: Recovering Heritage and Expanding the Viola's Voice Across Cultures

Christina Ebersohl-Van Scyoc, viola
Melissa Terrall, piano

Gamal Abdel Rahim (1924–1988) — Two Songs for Viola and Piano
Yusif Gris (1899–1961) — The Bedouin
Mohamed Abdelwahab Abdelfattah (b. 1952) — Egyptian Song
Gamal Abdel Rahim (1924–1988) — Improvisation on a Peddler's Tune
Sherif Mohie Eldin (b. 1964) — Today and Yesterday: Suite in 5 Movements

This recital explores the interplay of Egyptian and Western classical music through a diverse and dynamic program for viola and piano. Performed by violist Christina Ebersohl-Van Scyoc and pianist Melissa Terrall, the program highlights the expressive depth and stylistic contrasts of these traditions, showcasing works that blend cultural influences and expand the viola's role in cross-cultural repertoire. The program features the world premiere commissioned work "Today and Yesterday: Suite in 5 Movements" by Egyptian composer Sherif Mohie Eldin, which reflects on the evolution of Egyptian musical identity. Also included are 2 Songs for Viola and Piano and Improvisation on a Peddler's Tune by Gamal Abdel-Rahim, Egyptian Song by Mohamed Abdelwahab Abdelfattah, and Le Bedouin by Yusif Gris. Each piece offers a distinct perspective on cultural fusion, from folkloric inspiration to contemporary expression. This recital presents a rare opportunity to experience a dialogue between musical traditions, expanding the viola's repertoire while offering a fresh perspective on classical traditions through global collaboration.

Project 27

LECTURE

USA

Reclaiming Heritage: Contemporary Egyptian Art Music at the Intersection of East and West

Christina Ebersohl-Van Scyoc, speaker

Western art prioritizes innovation and breaking from tradition, while many Eastern cultures integrate heritage into modern works. Contemporary Egyptian music, as defined here, blends Western instruments (percussion, brass, strings) with Egyptian elements like the qanun, nay, and folk melodies. Across the 20th and 21st centuries, four generations of Egyptian composers merged past and present, shaping a unique narrative in art music. Yet, this music remains misunderstood and isolated, largely due to limited scholarship in non-Arabic languages and poor access to scores and recordings. This lecture addresses the gap by connecting the lives and works of key composers: Yusif Gris, Gamal Abdel-Rahim, Atia Sharara, and Sherif Mohi Eldin. Combining archival research, ethnography, and oral history, it explores how their music expresses identity and nationalism, offering new context and resources to broaden global recognition and future research.

Project 104

WORKSHOP

Egypt

The Viola and the Maqam: A Practical Introduction to Middle Eastern Performance Techniques

Joseph Alfred, viola/violin

Working on knowledge of the Oriental Musical scales (Moods) – named in Arabic as Maqam – and combining the Related Maqam with the Western international musical scales.
Practical performance of the Moods using Traditional Oriental Egyptian Songs from Heritage.

This interactive workshop invites violists to explore the vibrant musical traditions of the Middle East through a combination of theory and practical exercises. Led by Middle Eastern string specialist Joseph Alfred, participants will discover how elements of Arabic, Turkish, and Persian music can enrich viola playing and expand expressive possibilities beyond Western classical techniques. The session introduces fundamental concepts of the maqam modal system, Iqa'at rhythmic cycles, and the improvisatory taqsim form, along with microtonal intervals, characteristic ornamentation, and modal phrasing. Participants will apply these techniques directly on their instruments through guided exercises, call-and-response patterns, and short solo and ensemble passages. Emphasis is placed on bowing, vibrato, left-hand ornamentation, improvisation strategies, and modal intonation. Accessible to all levels, the workshop combines cultural context, historical insight, and hands-on practice, offering violists practical tools, fresh perspectives, and inspiration to integrate non-Western idioms into performance, pedagogy, and composition.

Project 137

RECITAL

France

Farasha

Sindy Mohamed, viola
Julien Quentin, piano
N.N., oud

Pierre De Bréville — Sonata for Viola and Piano
Khaled Al Kammar — Faten Amal Harby for Oud, Viola, and Piano (TBC, only if Oud player is found)
Camille Saint-Saëns — Sonata for Bassoon and Piano, Op. 168 (Version for Viola, arr. Léa Hennino)

At the heart of its register, the viola forms a subtle bridge between voices, embodying connection, collaboration, and unity. This recital reflects those values by bringing together composers and musical traditions from diverse cultural spheres, including Pierre de Bréville, and Khaled Al Kammar, creating a dialogue between contrasting worlds. The program mirrors the artistic journey of its performer, rooted in Egypt, shaped in France, and evolving in Germany. It is both a tribute to these intertwined influences and a personal narrative in which identity, tradition, and innovation converge. The recital highlights the expressive depth and adaptability of the viola, celebrating its ability to inhabit and transform across musical styles, while affirming its increasing recognition as a solo instrument in its own right. Particular attention is given to the French repertoire, with the revival of Pierre de Bréville's rarely performed Viola Sonata, a work of remarkable beauty that deserves wider recognition. Equally central is the inclusion of a recent work by Egyptian composer Khaled Al Kammar, featuring the oud alongside viola and piano. The pairing of viola and oud—two instruments deeply connected to the human voice—creates a unique resonance, exploring both their sonic affinities and shared elements between Western and Eastern traditions. What began as a reflection on music as a bridge between cultures has also inspired the creation of an album, due for release at the end of August. Titled Farasha (Arabic for "butterfly"), it captures the artist's musical evolution as well as the changing role of the viola in the classical world. Like the butterfly, this journey symbolizes transformation: the unfolding of a personal and cultural identity, and the ongoing emergence of the viola as a versatile and celebrated solo instrument.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30 BREAK

15 : 30 - 17 : 30 WESTERN MUSIC

Project I35 RECITAL WORKSHOP France

Contemporary French Solo Viola (2021–2025)

Karine Lethiec, viola

Pascale Jakubowski — Sefar for viola (2023)
Inspired by the rock painting «The Great God of Sefar» – North Africa, Tassili n'Ajjer
Artchipel Music Editions

Elise Bertrand — Transes-51 for viola (2023)
Inspired by a rock painting in West Papua, Indonesia
Billaudot Editions

Benoît Menut — Ar Men for viola – excerpt, VI. Landudal (2021)
A journey in 5 movements – A tribute to the engraved slab of Saint-Bélec, the first topographic map (2000 BCE)
Artchipel Music Editions

Michel Petrossian, Venus de Lespugue for viola (2024)
Inspired by the eponymous statuette (29,000 BCE) / Artchipel Music Editions

Kryštof Mařatka — Altotem, version for solo viola (2025) – world premiere
Archaic Nocturnal Music, a tribute to the MAN – National Archaeology Museum
Artchipel Music Editions

Contemporary creation for the viola in resonance with the arts of origins and archaeology: from traces and signs to the imaginary.

A contemporary musical program for solo viola, in the form of a bridge between origins–heritage and modernity–innovation, with works that question the origin of the creative musical gesture and propose to link it to its roots, to the most distant artistic gesture.

Concert performer and researcher, violist Karine Lethiec presents works for viola that she has inspired and created between 2021 and 2025, part of the basis of her current doctoral research, which explores the resonance between the origins of art and contemporary expression, a dialogue between ancestral imprints and creation, through the prism of the world of sound.

Her project invites today's composers and cultural venues to perpetuate this sense of wonder at the great universal narrative common to humanity, to build bridges between the past, present, and future, and to continue to nourish musical artistic creation, particularly the viola repertoire, which, through its specificity and originality of color and timbre, opens up innovative paths of experimentation.

Project I90 SHARED RECITAL Netherland

Ma vie en couleurs

New European Ensemble:
Emlyn Stam, viola
Felicja van den End, flute
James Meldrum, clarinet
Ryan Linham, trumpet
Coen Kaptein, trombone
Porter Ellerman, percussion
Astrid Haring, harp
Rada Ovcharova, violin
Willem Stam, cello

Martijn Padding (b.1956) — Ma vie en couleurs (2025) for viola solo and ensemble
I. Rouge foncé
II. Bleu (Trois Emylins en bleu)
III. Jaune puis violet

Ma vie en couleurs is a new viola concerto by Dutch composer Martijn Padding, composed in 2025 for Emlyn Stam and the New European Ensemble. Lasting about 25 minutes, it has three contrasting movements: Rouge foncé, Bleu (Trois Emylins en bleu), and Jaune puis violet. This refined and imaginative work expands the contemporary viola repertoire through wit, intimacy, and dynamic interplay. Padding (b.1956), a leading Dutch composer, is known for structural clarity, sharp textures, and subtle humour, balancing logic with playfulness. Each movement has its own character: the bold and extroverted Rouge foncé; the introspective Bleu, built on a musical cryptogram of the soloist's name; and Jaune puis violet, shifting from jazzy energy to a restrained, ironic chorale. Written for eight instrumentalists, the concerto creates theatrical dialogues between viola and ensemble. Premiered in April 2025, it was praised by critics and aligns closely with the 2026 International Viola Congress theme New Horizons.

Project I7 RECITAL USA

Edge of a Dream: Evocative Works by Living Composers

Tonya Burton, viola
Tingting Yao, piano

Ben Morris — Aromatic (2015)
Alice Hong — Sonata for solo viola (2014)
Lingbo Ma — In a Maze, in a Daze (2023)
Carlos Carillo — Cantata para Solo Viola (2022)
Nicky Sohn — Cynthia for viola and piano (2024)

Edge of a Dream features evocative new works for the viola by living composers. Each piece explores the rich, expressive depth of the viola, drawing on a wide spectrum of stylistic influences — including jazz, contemporary classical techniques, and East Asian harmonies. While these works showcase virtuosic extended techniques, at their core lies the viola's poetic voice: a medium for reflection on identity, lived experience, and loss.

22th January

Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris >

17 : 30 - 18 : 30

VIOLA ENSEMBLE OF CNSMDP

IVS Project

RECITAL

France

Program

N.N, viola

N.N

The Viola Ensemble of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris (CNSMDP) is a special formation created for the occasion of the Congress. It brings together talented viola students from the Conservatoire, united to perform a unique program that showcases the expressive range and richness of the viola. Though not a permanent ensemble, this gathering reflects the excellence and creative spirit of the institution, offering a rare opportunity to hear its emerging artists in a collective project.

09 : 00 - 09 : 30

RELAXATION

Project I2I

WORKSHOP

France

The Body... a Tuning Fork

Anne Caloustian, violist and workshop leader

Works by Ian Gammie, Kenneth Harding, Diego Montes, Christopher Lowry, and The Beatles.

The Body... a Tuning Fork invites participants to explore the musician's inner resonance through a living approach to breath, movement, and sound. Through simple somatic exercises, breathing work, and awareness of bodily resonators and posture, participants discover how the body itself becomes a true tuning fork — a vibrant space that amplifies the color, accuracy, and expressive freedom of the viola's sound.

Combining guided practice, individual and collective exploration, and moments of improvisation, this workshop encourages a free, joyful, and mindful approach to playing. Open to all levels, it offers practical tools to enrich one's tone, prevent physical tension, and rediscover the pleasure of musical movement.

Learning objectives:

- Connect breath, movement, and sound vibration
- Sense and activate the body's natural resonators
- Find balance between grounding and freedom of motion
- Cultivate a more intuitive and joyful relationship with the instrument



10 : 00 - 12 : 00

TRANSCRIPTIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Project 78

LECTURE

Brazil

Transcriptio/Translatio: A Rhetorical Approach to the Art of Transcription

Marcus Held, musicologist, violist, violinist

Sonata sopra "Allein Gott in der Höh' sei Ehr" for viola and obbligato keyboard
Based on works by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) and Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow (1663–1712). Transcribed by Marcus Held.
I. Allegro (based on BWV 664)
II. Andante – Fuga (based on BWV 716)
III. Largo (based on LV 46)
IV. Allegro (based on BWV 717)

A significant portion of the pre-20th-century viola repertoire originates from transcriptions of works originally composed for other instruments, especially violin and cello. In the 17th and 18th centuries, transcription was not merely a technical adaptation but a rhetorical art, guided by principles similar to those of linguistic translation. Drawing on classical rhetorical theories from authors such as Cicero and Quintilian, this lecture examines transcription as an interpretive, historically grounded practice that reimagines the original work rather than simply replicating it. The presentation will be illustrated with a newly arranged sonata for viola and obbligato keyboard, based on works by Johann Sebastian Bach and Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow. By recontextualizing overlooked works, performers and scholars gain access to neglected musical materials, enriching both interpretation and understanding. Approached rhetorically, transcription emerges not as a secondary task, but as a central, inventive, and historically legitimate mode of musical engagement.

Project 101

LECTURE RECITAL

Colombia

The Rhythm of New Life: Two Works for Amplified Viola and Electronics by Stephen Andrew TaylorMaria Fernanda Rubiano Pulido, viola
Pierre Venissac, piano

Luis Antonio Escobar — Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano, arr. for Viola and Piano by Maria Fernanda Rubiano Pulido

This lecture-recital explores Luis Antonio Escobar's Sonata No. 3 through a transcription for viola and piano. The sonata, rooted in Colombian traditional music, integrates folkloric rhythms like the bambuco and other characteristic regional dances enriched by authentic traditional harmonies. I will present a detailed analysis of these elements and their significance within Escobar's work, emphasizing their potential to enrich the viola repertoire. As a Colombian violist, my goal is to elevate this sonata's recognition internationally, offering a unique fusion of classical and Colombian folk traditions. This transcription aims to contribute a valuable addition to both Latin American and global viola literature.

Project 80

SHARED RECITAL

Brazil

ABRAV Ensemble: Brazilian Music for ViolaAdriana Schincariol, Bruna Gomes, Carlos Aleixo dos Reis, Daphne Gerling, Denise Freitas, Emerson De Biaggi, Fabio Saggin, Hella Frank, Laís Guimarães, Leonardo Piermartiri, Marco Antônio Catto and Murilo Frias, violas
Arthur Barbosa, conductor

Arthur Barbosa (b. 1965) — Violanas Brasileiras, four short Brazilian dances

I. Lundu, 2. Jequibau, 3. Bossa, and 4. Cateretê

Ernst Mahle (1929–2025) — Quatuor ao cair da tarde

I. Poco largo, 2. Andantino, 3. Allegro

Flausino Vale (1894–1954) — Ao Pé da Fogueira

The ABRAV Ensemble is formed by professional violists and advanced students, all members of the Brazilian Viola Society. It brings together violists from across the country to explore the rich Brazilian repertoire for viola ensemble, in a program that includes works from different styles and periods. For the 50th IVC in Paris, we commissioned a new work from composer Arthur Barbosa, written especially for this occasion, which was premiered in Brasília at the VIII ENVIO (National Viola Festival) in September 2025. Barbosa's piece, «Violanas Brasileiras», is a collection of four short dances representing different regions of Brazil. We also pay tribute to the recently deceased German-Brazilian composer Ernst Mahle, who made great contributions to the development of the Brazilian viola repertoire, with a performance of his «Quarteto ao cair da tarde» (1981). The program will conclude with an arrangement of the famous «Ao pé da fogueira», by Flausino Vale, composer who gained international recognition through Jascha Heifetz's performances following his visit to Brazil.

Project 81

RECITAL

Brazil

Two Violas, One BrazilMurilo Frias, Carlos Tavares, viola
Álvaro Carriello, Ivan Parpaguerius, Rodrigo D'Ávila, Nayara Tamarozzi, Diego Silva, composer

Álvaro Carriello — Duo para Violas (2025) — 7'30"

I. Allegro Vivace — 2'

II. Adagio Expressivo — 3'

III. Allegro Enérgico — 2'30"

Ivan Parpaguerius — Galope Tocata (2025) — 4'

Rodrigo D'Ávila — Duo para Violas (2025) — 4'

Nayara Tamarozzi — Fragmento 3 (2025) — 3'30"

Diego Silva — Duo para Violas (2025) — 5'

Brazilian violists Murilo Frias and Carlos Tavares present Two Violas, One Brazil, an ambitious initiative to enrich the contemporary repertoire for viola duo through today's Brazilian musical creation. Five original works have been commissioned from composers Ivan Parpaguerius, Álvaro Carriello, Rodrigo D'Ávila, Diego Silva, and composer Nayara Tamarozzi — representatives of a new generation committed to writing that is both innovative and rooted in Brazilian musical traditions. These duos will be premiered at the 50th International Viola Congress in January 2026 in Paris, offering an international platform for these emerging voices and encouraging greater integration of Latin American music into global programming. By combining cultural heritage with contemporary exploration, Two Violas, One Brazil celebrates the richness of Brazil's musical landscape and fosters dialogue between performers and composers.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 LUNCH

13 : 00 - 14 : 00 HISTORY

Project I19 LECTURE RECITAL France

The Solo Viola Repertoire up to 1795: From Artistic Issues to Pedagogical Tools

Jean-Christophe Bernard, baroque viola & composer
Louis Alix, harpsichordist & fortepianist
Robin De Talhouët, baroque cello

Giorgio Antoniotto — Sonata in F major for viola and basso continuo
Michel Corrette — Sonata in B-flat major for viola and basso continuo
William Flackton — Sonata in G major No. 6, Op. 2 for viola and basso continuo
Telemann — Sonata in B-flat major for viola and basso continuo — or Handel — Sonata in C major for viola and obbligato harpsichord, HWV Anh. B 417
Vanhal — Sonata in E-flat major No. 5 for fortepiano and viola
Phelipe de los Rios — Sonata for viola and basso continuo (to be specified)
Wilhelm Friedemann Bach — Sonata in C minor for viola and obbligato harpsichord

This lecture-recital, created by Jean-Christophe Bernard, reflects a viola pedagogy and master's thesis completed in 2025 at the CNSMDP. It explores concertos and sonatas for viola with basso continuo, harpsichord, or fortepiano, and recounts a pedagogical project carried out in two Paris conservatories, where five students experimented with historical bows and performed works from this little-known repertoire. After tracing the viola's evolution through treatises up to the late 18th century, the thesis centers on a graded classification of more than 125 sonatas and concertos according to technical and musical difficulty. This corpus illustrates the viola's emancipation—from inner voice to solo instrument. The lecture-recital highlights the often-overlooked solo viola repertoire of the Enlightenment, supported by score excerpts, historical and modern editions, recordings, and contextual insights into the 18th-century European courts where certain composers expanded the instrument's technical and expressive scope.

Project I99 LECTURE Poland

J.S. Bach - Toccata and Fugue in D BWV 565 - an original piece for viola solo?

Marcin Murawski, viola

The Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565, is a composition for organ by, according to the oldest sources, German composer Johann Sebastian Bach. It is one of the most widely recognisable works in the organ repertoire.[1] Although the date of its origin is unknown, scholars have suggested between 1704 and the 1740s (if by Bach).[2] The piece opens with a toccata section followed by a fugue that ends in a coda, and is largely typical of the north German organ school of the Baroque era. The piece has been subject to a wide, and often conflicting, variety of analyses. It is often described as a type of program music depicting a storm, while its depiction in Fantasia is suggestive of non-representational or absolute music. Scholars such as Peter Williams and Rolf Dietrich Claus argued against its authenticity, while Christoph Wolff defended the attribution to Bach. Other commentators ignored the doubts over its authenticity, or considered the attribution issue undecided. The other hypothesis elaborated by Williams is that BWV 565 may have been a transcription of a lost solo violin piece. Okay – but how about this: this is an original piece written by J.S. Bach for viola. Controversial thesis? crazy? absurd? Then fasten your seatbelts, I will prove that I am right.

14 : 00 - 15 : 00 FORGOTTEN REPERTOIRE

Project I09 LECTURE Spain

Rediscovering spanish classical and romantic music written for viola

María José Fueyo Muñoz, Viola teacher, PhD in Education

In this presentation I will explain 16 Spanish works composed for viola of the Classical and Romantic periods, emphasizing their origin and reasons for composition (some of them as significant «opposition sonatas» to enter the Royal Chapel Orchestra in Madrid), and their possible use in teaching, with brief audio examples of the most representative works.

This conference spotlights original Spanish viola music from the Classical and Romantic periods, especially works linked to the Royal Chapel in the 18th and 19th centuries and into the early 20th century, when Romantic style persisted. It presents sixteen rarely performed pieces—sonatas, viola and piano works, solos, and études—which are largely absent from teaching and concerts in Spain. A 2024 doctoral thesis reveals that only 41% of repertoire used in Spanish conservatories is original for viola, with Spanish works barely represented despite their cultural and historical significance. This session offers a focused historical and musical overview of this overlooked repertoire, including works by Brunetti, Balado, Lidón, Sancho, and others. Its goal is to encourage violists worldwide to rediscover, perform, and teach these valuable Spanish pieces, restoring them to the recognition they deserve.

Project I32 RECITAL France

Viola Echoes on the Shores of Lake Geneva

Antonin Le Faure, viola
Josquin Otal, piano

Alfred Pochon (1878–1959) — Passacaglia for solo viola (c. 1945)
Arthur Honegger (1892–1955) — Sonata for Viola and Piano (1920)
Ernest Bloch (1880–1959) — Suite for Solo Viola (1919)
Ernest Templeton Strong (1868–1952) — Suite à trois voix for viola and piano (1930) (1st World Performance)
Richard Dubugnon (b. 1968) — Die Laune Aiolos for viola and piano, Op. 90 (2020)

Conceived by violist Antonin Le Faure during his studies at HEMU Lausanne, this programme highlights a lesser-known aspect of French-speaking Switzerland's musical heritage, especially from the Vaud region, while celebrating the expressive richness of the viola. It features rare and unpublished works by Swiss composers linked to the Lake Geneva area, spanning the early twentieth century to today. Both solo and ensemble formats showcase the viola's many voices — lyrical, dramatic, and virtuosic. With rediscovery at its heart, the project also forms part of an ongoing discographical initiative to promote these works.

The recital includes Ernest Templeton's Suite à trois voix for viola and piano (1930), performed for the first time, Alfred Pochon's Passacaglia for solo viola, Arthur Honegger's dense and expressive Sonata for Viola and Piano, Ernest Bloch's emotionally charged Unfinished Suite for solo viola, and Richard Dubugnon's energetic Die Laune Aiolos. This programme is a tribute to local heritage and artistic innovation, offering the viola a vibrant stage.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30 BREAK

15 : 30 - 16 : 30 HISTORY & TRANSCRIPTIONS

Project I38 LECTURE France

What repertoire for the Baroque viola?

Lomane Perrier, viola

Repertoire from the 17th and early 18th centuries

The role of the violin in early music repertoire is fairly well defined, and many composers have written treatises on how to approach it. The viola, however, has very few such documents dedicated to it. Yet today, as violists are increasingly capable of tackling highly technical repertoire that demands full-time dedication, what is the true place of the viola and the violist within early music? Must violists necessarily turn to the violin in order to access the early repertoire?

Project 33 LECTURE RECITAL USA

Telemann's 12 Fantasies for Viola da Gamba Solo on Viola — Pleasures, Benefits, and Uses for Performance and Technique

Misha Galaganov, viola

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681–1767) — 12 Fantasias for Viola da Gamba Bass on Viola

This short lecture-recital focuses on ways of utilizing the recently-rediscovered Fantasies for Bass Viol (Viola da Gamba) by Georg Philipp Telemann not only as performance pieces, but also as technical studies that can be used towards many different goals. These works are almost perfectly suited for the modern viola in sound, range, and character. Brief overview of methodical and musical considerations includes polyphony and its techniques on viola; embellishments, ornaments, and improvisation; Baroque dances and their relevance in Telemann's Fantasies; fingerings and bowings; and double stops. The presentation aims to inspire viola colleagues in including the Viola da Gamba Fantasies in their concert and pedagogical repertoire.

16 : 30 - 17 : 30 OPERA FANTASY

Project I65 RECITAL Italy

Opera(s) fo(u)r Viola(s)

Simona Ruisi, Mara Badalamenti, Michela Marchiana, Daniela Vinci, violas
N.N., Piano

Giacomo Bignami (1810–1888) — "Fantasia" for viola and piano on Oronte's cavatina from the opera I Lombardi by Giuseppe Verdi
Francesco Fiore (2000) — Introduction, Theme and Variations on motifs from Bellini's Norma for viola quartet
New commission for viola quartet (2025)

The project aims to enhance the existing Italian repertoire for viola and, at the same time, propose new compositions for this instrument. Specifically, what will be offered is a concert that will bring to the stage musical rarities and pieces in absolute first performance. Thus, an inextricably link between tradition and innovation. The program opens with a "Fantasia" for viola and piano on the cavatina of Oronte in the opera "I Lombardi" by Giuseppe Verdi composed by Giacomo Bignami (1810–1888). It is a semi-unknown piece for some mysterious reason that afflicts the history of music, yet no less wonderful and worthy of being proposed again in a concert. The second piece will be a transcription by the Italian composer Francesco Fiore for viola quartet on the themes of "Norma" by Vincenzo Bellini. Although it is not a premiere, it is nevertheless a little-known piece because it is relatively new. The last piece is an absolute premiere for viola quartet. This composition has been chosen from among the various works arrived from a "call for scores". It is therefore precisely the relationship we have with the past (musical and otherwise) that is the common thread that links the pieces in the program. How can we propose the past today? And is the past really the past? These were the important questions that guided us in drafting this program. The internal evolution in the succession of the pieces is therefore very clear: from a rediscovered piece, to a "transfigured" work and finally to a new one. In this sense too, a type of relationship with tradition is highlighted. This also highlights the internal dynamism of the program itself.



22th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris >

Salle **DUKAS**

10 : 00 - 12 : 00

TIMOTHY RIDOUT

IVS Invitation

MASTERCLASS

United Kingdom

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00

LUNCH

13 : 00 - 15 : 00

WOMEN COMPOSERS

Project I10

LECTURE RECITAL

Spain

Eira Duo — The Viola as a Voice for Modern Women Composers

Eira Duo
Iryna Neporozhnya, viola
Celia Cortes Manzanares, piano

Laura Vega — De un lejano amor
Elena Kats — Butterflying

Eira Duo is a musical project that intertwines neoclassical music by women composers with their own creative voice and original works. Their performances transcend traditional concerts, blending viola, piano, and electronic. At the core of their project lie their compositions, inspired by the works and composers that they perform, connecting generations through sound. By sharing the cultural context of each piece and insights into their creative journey, they build a dialogue with the audience through reflections, creating an immersive experience. Eira Duo opens a space for representation, reinterpretation, and innovation in contemporary classical music.

Project 3I

SHARED RECITAL

USA

FronDESCENCE

Christiana Fortune-Reader, viola
Wendy Richman, viola

Phyllis Chen (b. 1978) — Resonant Echoes (2021) for two violas and music box
Jessie Cox (b. 1995) — Dark, Light (2017) for two violas
Lellehua Lanzilotti (b. 1983) — Silhouette, Mirror from With Eyes the Color of Time (2020) for two violas
Caroline Mallonnee (b. 1975) — Wavefield from Suite Storm King (2017) for two violas

This collaborative recital features unusual works for viola by underrepresented contemporary composers, highlighting music as a tool of social resistance that amplifies marginalized voices, challenges oppressive systems, and fosters solidarity. Focusing primarily on American composers or those active in the US, the program traces the evolution of viola repertoire in recent decades, incorporating unconventional instruments, electronics, and alto voice. Works include pieces by Pulitzer nominees such as Lellehua Lanzilotti, alongside compositions and arrangements created specifically for the performers by composers Phyllis Chen, Jessie Cox, and Caroline Mallonnee. Guided by a commitment to illuminate lesser-known works and tell compelling stories, the performers present a bold viola duo program that also reflects on climate change, global perspectives, and humanity's place in the Anthropocene. The title, FronDESCENCE evokes the unfolding of a leaf, symbolizing growth and transformation.

Project II

RECITAL

USA/Canada

Resonance: Women Create Sound

Ayn Balija, alto
I-Jen Fang, percussions

Conversation Piece — Victoria Bond (b. 1945)
Mariola — Judith Shatin (b. 1949)
Limestone and Felt — Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)
Entre Nous — JoVia Armstrong (b. 1976)

The Piedmont Duo's recital entitled Resonance: Women Creating Sound, features the innovative and creative spirit of American women composers and performers Ayn Balija, viola and I-Jen Fang, percussion. Each of these pieces highlights the boundless creativity and resilience of women while also showing a deeper connection. In Entre Nous for viola and marimba, JoVia Armstrong depicts the unbreakable bonds with certain people in our lives and how they shape us. Judith Shatin pairs the marimba and viola to describe the resilient and almost defiant life and spirit of the mariola, a Southwest desert plant, in Mariola for viola and marimba. Conversation Piece by Victoria Bond and an arrangement of Caroline Shaw's Limestone and Felt who challenges the listener to consider the two materials in the title as two opposing ways we experience history and design our own present completes the recital's program. This recital reflects the human experience that we all share.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30

BREAK

15 : 30 - 16 : 30

EAST FORGOTTEN REPERTOIRE**Project 198**

LECTURE RECITAL

Poland**Wojciech Gawroński - forgotten Polish romantic**

Marcin Murawski, viola
N.N., piano

1. Berceuse op. 2 no. 3
2. Kolysanka op. 11 no. 5
3. Sonata for viola and piano op. 22
 - I Allegro moderato
 - II Adagio sostenuto (con molto sentimentale)
 - III Rondo. Allegro risoluto
4. Pieśń miłości op. 24 no. 3
5. Pieśń wieczorna op. 25 no. I
6. Nocturno w noc księżycową op. 26 no. I

Wojciech Gawroński was born in 1868 in Sejmany near Vilnius, and died in Kowanówek near Poznań. He was a pianist and a composer, and his musical education took him through schools in Vilnius, Simferopol, Warsaw, Berlin and Vienna. He studied at the Music Institute in Warsaw in classes of Rudolf Strobl (piano), Gustaw Rogulski (music theory) and Zygmunt Noskowski (composition), and received his diploma in 1891. Moreover, he was a private pupil of Adam Münchheimer and Maurycy Moszkowski in Berlin. In 1902 he settled in Warsaw, where he took to composing and teaching, and travelled to Łódź, where he taught piano in the local music school. His works, fairly diverse in terms of instruments but very few in numbers –containing only 29 opuses– received noted awards at national and foreign competitions. Amongst his works we find: Strings quartet in F major op. 16, Variations op. 9 no. 2 for piano, Ballade op. 10 no. I and Legend op. 13 no. 2, Quartet in F minor op. 17. Gawroński also took part in a competition for an opera based on the story Maria by A. Malczewski. Other than the dominating piano works, Gawroński also composed for various string instruments with piano, amongst them the Sonata for viola and piano op. 22, which is one of the oldest (if not the oldest) of its genre in the Polish literature. The entirety of this project is crowned by a few beautiful miniatures originally written for piano solo, viola and piano, or transcriptions of violin, cello and vocal works.

16 : 30 - 17 : 30

MUSIC BY WOMEN**Project 55**

SHARED RECITAL

USA**Portrait de Femme: Globetrotting with Women Composers**

Diane Phoenix-Neal, viola
Jutta Puchhammer Sédillot, viola
Sherry Grant, piano

Modesta Bor (1926–1998) — Sonata for Viola and Piano, III. Allegro Moderato
Jessie Montgomery (b. 1981) — Rhapsody No. 2 for Solo Viola
Rachel Eubanks (1922–2006) — Vietnamese Love Song by Rachel Eubanks
Chihchun Chi-sun Lee (b. 1970) — Multicultural Songs
Dorothea Franchi (1920–2003) — Rhapsody for Viola and Orchestra, piano reduction by Sherry Grant

Portrait de femme: Globetrotting with Women Composers explores the theme of music by women composers while adding transcriptions to expand the current viola repertoire. This recital includes unique works by five female composers of the 19th through to the 21st century, from four different countries around the world: New Zealand, Taiwan, United States and Venezuela. Two of the composers, Chihchun Chi-sun Lee and Jessie Montgomery, are living composers. This program invokes cultural traditions such as dance, songs and poetry and is curated in the form of a multimedia presentation, where portraits of each composer and matching poems with English translation are woven into the music. The dance-like 3rd movement of the Sonata para viola y piano by Modesta Bor opens the program and is playful in nature. Two rhapsodies are selected: The first is Rhapsody No. 2 for solo viola by the 2024 Grammy award-winning composer Jessie Montgomery. Chihchun Chi-sun Lee's Multi-Cultural Songs, originally for mid-range voice and piano, "incorporates folk tunes from Korea, Russia, Japan, China and Indonesia. This music travels from country to country within a seamless path regardless of the language." A Vietnamese Folk Song by Rachel Eubanks uses the melody of the popular 1958 song Kip nào có yêu nhau (In Which Lifetime Did We Love Each Other?) by Phm Duy. New Zealand composer Dorothea Franchi's Rhapsody for Viola and Orchestra (winner of the 1950 Lionel Tertis Prize), a relatively unknown work, ends the program, complete with a new piano reduction by Sherry Grant (2025). The entire program takes the audience on a global journey, promoting a message of unity and intercultural collaboration.

Project 158

LECTURE

Israël-Lithuania**The Viola Behind the Iron Curtain: Unknown Original Viola Works from the Soviet Era**

Netanel Pollak, viola

B. Asafiev — Sonata for Solo Viola (1938)
Sh. Kallosh — Three Ricercars for Solo Viola (1971)

After completing a pioneering study of the Soviet viola school, arising from the urgent need to preserve more than three hundred original viola works, and the fascinating story of the viola community in the USSR, DMA Netanel Pollak presents a solo program of two unknown masterpieces. The first is a solo sonata by the important composer and musicologist Boris Asafiev, composed in the horrifying year of 1938, and dedicated to Alexander Ryvkin, a leading violist from Leningrad, whose important contribution was forgotten. The other piece, 'Three Ricercars for Solo Viola' (1971) by the Soviet-Ukrainian composer Shandor Kallosh, speaks the language of the late Soviet avant-garde, and was dedicated to Mikhail Tolpygo, another lesser-known, yet incredibly significant violist. While demonstrating completely different musical styles, both works deal with the musical idea of neo-old, with the representation of multiple identities (agencies), and with extending the expressive and virtuosic range of the viola.

09 : 30 - 11 : 00 VIOLA ORCHESTRA

IVS Project A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT World

Program

A large viola orchestra bringing together amateur and professional musicians from around the world. This collective project embodies the spirit of sharing and togetherness that lies at the heart of the congress, where everyone can take part in the viola's unique sound.

09 : 30 - 12 : 00 PAULINE SACHSE

IVS Invitation MASTERCLASS Germany

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 LUNCH

13 : 00 - 14 : 00 GERMAN COMPOSERS

Project 160 LECTURE Italy

The genesis of Max Bruch's Romance op. 85

Giulio Baraldi, speaker

This conference presents previously unknown historical material that sheds new light on the origins of Max Bruch's Romance op. 85 for viola and orchestra. In 2019, shortly before his passing, Jean-Claude Vieux, the last surviving son of the renowned violist and pedagogue Maurice Vieux, entrusted a set of personal objects and documents belonging to his father. Among them was an original letter written by Max Bruch in 1911, addressed to Maurice Vieux. In this letter, the aging German composer evokes the idea of writing a work for viola—perhaps not a concerto, but rather a piece of a more intimate and lyrical nature, described as an "Adagio". By presenting this discovery, the conference aims to highlight a unique chapter of musical history and to illuminate the connections between Bruch and Maurice Vieux. It is also an opportunity to honor the legacy of Maurice Vieux in Paris, where he taught for many years, and to contribute to a broader understanding of the viola repertoire.

Project 70 SHARED RECITAL USA

The Voice of the Viola: Transcriptions of Beethoven's Violin Sonatas

Eric Wong, viola
John-Paul Younes, viola
Hyunsoo Kim, piano

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
Sonata for Viola and Piano in D Major, Op. 12, No. 1 (transcribed by Eric Wong)
Allegro con brio
Sonata for Viola and Piano in A Major, Op. 30, No. 1 (transcribed by Eric Wong)
Adagio molto espressivo
Sonata for Viola and Piano in A Major, Op. 47 "Kreutzer" (transcribed by Eric Wong)
Presto

This recital features a performance of three varied selections from my viola transcriptions of Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano and Viola Sonatas. The idea to present these works on viola stems from a long-standing artistic and pedagogical goal: to make Beethoven's revolutionary music more accessible to violists. Unlike violinists and cellists, violists lack dedicated sonata repertoire by Beethoven that provides the immersive experience necessary for a nuanced understanding of the composer's style. I have too often heard students complain that they find his music «boring» or emotionally inaccessible, struggling to grasp sudden character changes, humor, and raw expression, hallmarks of the Beethovenian style. These sonatas, intimately scored for a single instrument and piano, contain all the stylistic and technical challenges essential for a comprehensive study of Beethoven's musical voice. My approach aligns with many other successful repertoire additions for viola including Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata, the Brahms clarinet sonatas, and the Franck Violin Sonata, all originally conceived for other instruments yet now integral to the viola repertoire. It has been a joy to introduce this music to a budding generation of violists and I hope listeners will agree that this music transcends instrumentation and shines on the viola.

14 : 00 - 15 : 00

AMERICAN MUSIC**Project 6**

LECTURE RECITAL

USA

A Unique Voice: The Viola Music of Alvin Etler

Ames Asbell, viola
Ian Davidson, oboe
Michelle Schumann, harpsichord

Alvin Etler (1913–1973) — Duo for Viola and Oboe (1954)

Eighth = 76
Quarter = 108–112
Quarter = 66
Quarter = 104–108

Alvin Etler (1913–1973) — Sonata for Viola and Harpsichord (1959)

Allegro moderato
Allegro
Adagio espressivo
Vivace

Composer Alvin Etler (1913–1973) began his career as a professional oboist before dedicating himself to composition, earning consecutive Guggenheim Fellowships in the early 1940s. He studied with Paul Hindemith at Yale, developing a compositional style marked by rhythmic energy, angular melodies, complex harmonies, and jazz-influenced accents — with a particular affinity for the viola. In his early works, Etler often exploited the timbre of the viola by placing it as the only string instrument within a woodwind ensemble, as in *Five Speeds Forward* (1940) and the *Sonata for Oboe, Clarinet, and Viola* (1945). Later works, including the *Duo for Oboe and Viola* (1954) and *Sonata for Viola and Harpsichord* (1959), highlight the viola as a solo instrument, perhaps influenced by Etler's friendship with violist Louise Rood, his faculty colleague at Smith College. Live performances with Dr. Ian Davidson (oboe) and Dr. Michelle Schumann (harpsichord) explore these rarely heard works, offering a fresh introduction to Etler's distinctive use of the viola's voice.

Project 207

SHARED RECITAL

Venezuela/USA

Dialogues in Timbre: Meléndez and Pool - Viola and Bassoon Duet

Melissa Melendez, viola
Scott Pool, bassoon

Philippe Hersant (b. 1948) — *Huite duos*
Alexandre Ouzounoff (b. 1955) — *Nuages de Feu*
Gernot Wolfgang (b. 1957) — *Three Short Stories*

Melissa Meléndez and Scott Pool share their passion for providing harmonic complexity as inner voices in both orchestral and chamber music settings. In 2017, they decided to highlight the expressive potential of the viola and bassoon as solo voices, and began exploring repertoire for this combination of instruments. From works by C.P.E. Bach to those by modern American and French composers, they have discovered that the combination of timbres resulting from this collaboration creates a unique experience for both the performers and the audience.

15 : 00 - 15 : 30

BREAK

15 : 30 - 16 : 30

SUD AMERICAN MUSIC**Project 83**

RECITAL

Brazil

Brazilian Composers from Minas Gerais: Works for Viola and Piano

Carlos Aleixo dos Reis, viola
Genira Schreiber, piano

Suzy Magalhães (b. 1965) — *Tango para Viola e Piano*Andersen Viana (b. 1962) — *Fantasieta para Viola e Piano*Guilherme Nascimento (b. 1970) — *Todas as Rosas são brancas para viola, piano e castanholas*Francisca Aquino (1953 – 2019) — *Santa Tereza*

This recital, presented as part of the International Viola Congress in Paris, showcases works by composers from Minas Gerais and Brasília DF, highlighting the richness and diversity of contemporary viola music from these regions. The program explores the expressive possibilities of the viola through solo and chamber works, emphasizing the dialogue between classical traditions and the cultural and sonic heritage of Minas Gerais, revealing the region's creative vitality in Brazil's musical landscape.

Project 73

RECITAL

Australia

Australian works for viola and voice

Jasmine Smith, viola
Harriet Dykes, viola/voice
Jasmine Kayen, voice

Emily Sheppard — *Aftermath* (2016) for singing violistNava Ryan — *Shadows* (2025) for two violas and voiceRoss Edwards — *Prelude and White Cockatoo Spirit Dance* (1994) for solo viola

This recital celebrates the expressive versatility of the viola through contemporary Australian compositions that explore the intersection between instrumental and vocal performance. The program traverses both established works and new creations, opening with Emily Sheppard's *Aftermath*, written for a singing violist. This work challenges the boundaries of traditional performance by blending voice and instrument into a unified, deeply expressive sound world. At the heart of the recital is a newly commissioned work by emerging Australian composer Nava Ryan, written specifically for the 2026 International Viola Congress. In this work, two violas and alto voice interweave through tender harmonies and flowing melodic lines. It is a meditation on beauty and loss. The program concludes with Ross Edwards' *Prelude and White Cockatoo Spirit Dance*, a two-movement solo work that contrasts lyrical contemplation with rhythmic vitality inspired by the Australian landscape and birdlife. Together, these works form a cohesive journey through Australian soundscapes, moving from contemporary reflections and vocal resonance to spiritual energy and ecstatic rhythm, all unified by the distinctive, warm voice of the viola.

22th January

Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris >

16 : 30 - 17 : 30

TRANSCRIPTIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

Project 49

LECTURE

USA

Orchestration of Marco Anzoletti's Viola Concertos

Kenneth Martinson, lecturer
Marco Misciagna, viola (recorded)

Marco Anzoletti (1867–1925)
Viola Concerto No. 1 in F minor (1900)
Viola Concerto No. 2 in B major (1915)
Violin/Viola Concerto in C major (1915)
Double Concerto for Violin, Viola, and Orchestra in D major (1904)

This lecture will explore four solo viola concertos by Marco Anzoletti (1867–1929), a violin/viola professor at the Milan Conservatory and a significant composer. The works include Viola Concerto No. 1 in F minor (1900), Viola Concerto No. 2 in B major (1915), the Violin/Viola Concerto (1915), and the Double Concerto for Violin, Viola, and Orchestra in D major (1904). Originally written with piano accompaniment, these works were intended for orchestration but were never orchestrated. Kenneth Martinson has already orchestrated two of them (Viola Concerto No. 1 and the Violin/Viola Concerto in C), with Viola Concerto No. 2 currently in progress. The lecture will include a brief introduction and biography of Anzoletti, an overview of his works for viola, and an in-depth discussion of the orchestration process. Attendees will also watch and listen to live global performances by violist Marco Misciagna.

Project 162

RECITAL

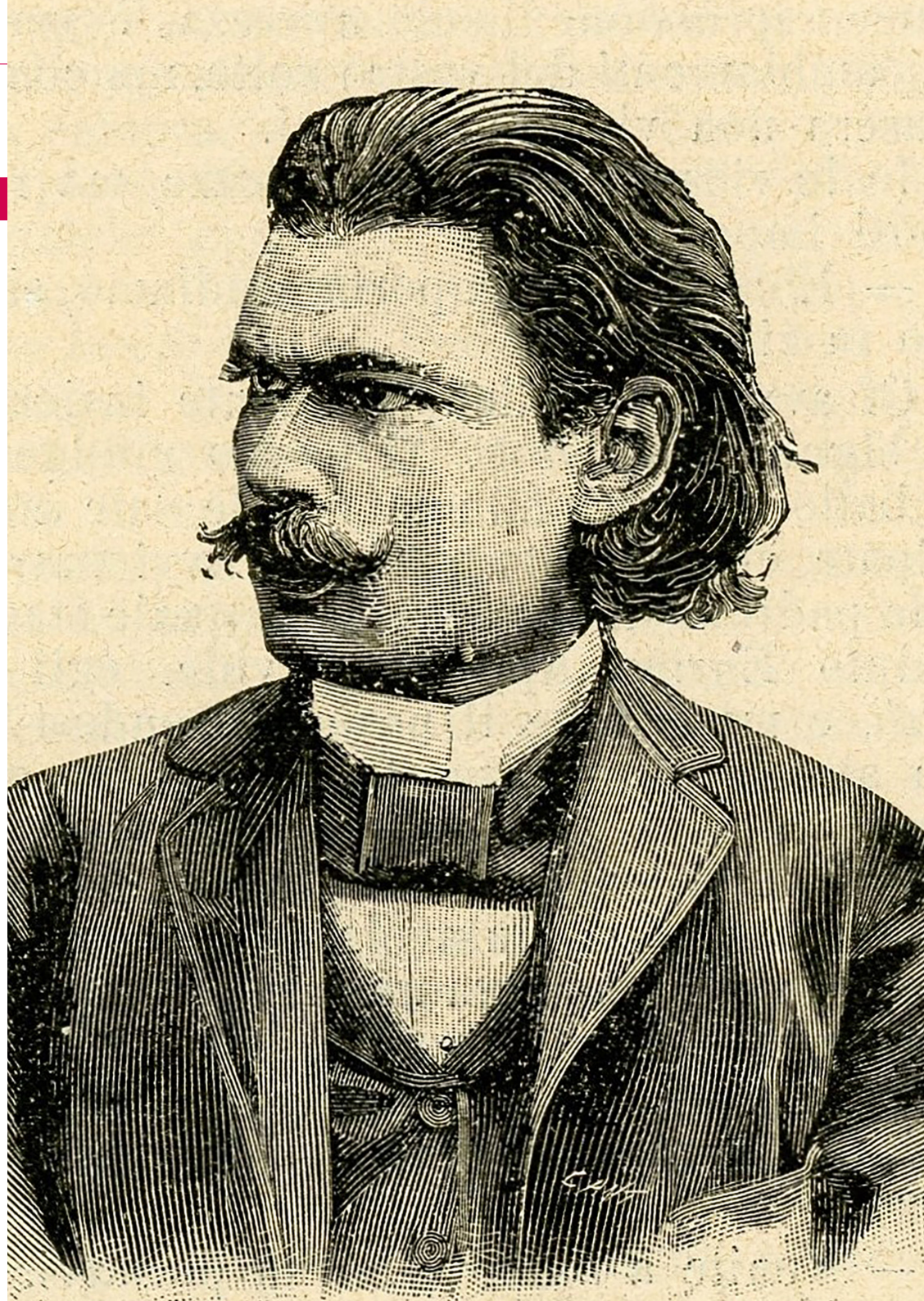
Italy

M. Anzoletti (1867-1929), Seven compositions, for viola and piano

Federica Cardinali, viola
Lisa Redorici, piano

Due Tombe (Two Graves)
Quel che si narra (What is Told)
Idillio d'amore (Love Idyll)
Giovinezza (Youth)
Primo Incontro (First Encounter)
Felicità d'amanti (Lovers' Happiness)
Serenata Maligna (Malignant Serenade)

This recital is dedicated to Marco Anzoletti, an exceptionally talented yet little-known Italian composer and violinist from Trento. A graduate and later professor at the Milan Conservatory, he was admired in Italy and abroad, even by Brahms, and wrote over 300 works, mostly instrumental and chamber music. The program features seven recently published but rarely performed pieces for viola and piano. Each offers a distinct character: Due Tombe opens solemnly before turning lyrical; Quel che si narra is dramatic and agitated. The third piece evokes dreamy love, followed by a joyful, youthful movement. The fifth stands out for its clear, singing line, while Felicità d'amanti recalls a classical minuet. The cycle closes with Serenata Maligna, where pizzicato, glissando, and dynamic contrasts reveal Anzoletti's inventive and atmospheric style.



22th January

50th INTERNATIONAL
VIOLA
CONGRESS

PARIS • JANUARY 19 > 23, 2026

Conservatoire National Supérieur d'Art Dramatique >

THÉÂTRE (350 seats)

10 : 00 - 12 : 00 **IVS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 **LUNCH**

15 : 30 - 17 : 30 **GARTH KNOX**

IVS Invitation MASTERCLASS Ireland

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

18 : 30 - 20 : 30 **DINNER**

20 : 30 **KIM KASHKASHIAN RECITAL**

IVS Invitation

RECITAL

USA

Kim Kashkashian, viola
Garth Knox, viola

Béla Bartók
Duo

György Kurtág
Signs, Games and Messages

György Kurtág
Unknow Pieces for solo viola

Béla Bartók
Duo



22th January

CMA I9 – Conservatoire Municipal Jacques Ibert >

AUDITORIUM

13 : 00 – 15 : 00

JUTTA PUCHHAMMER – SEDILLOT

IVS Invitation

MASTERCLASS

Canada

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

15 : 00 – 15 : 30

BREAK

15 : 30 – 17 : 30

LENA ECKELS

IVS Invitation

MASTERCLASS

Germany

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.



23th January

23.01

09 : 15 - 09 : 45 BILLAUDOT SHOWCASE

IVS Project SHOWCASE France

TBC

10 : 00 - 12 : 00 JOHN STULZ MASTERCLASS ON CONTEMPORARY REPERTOIRE

Project 62 MASTERCLASS USA

Teaching Blindly : Pedagogy of Contemporary Music

John Stulz, Viola / presenter

An exploration of applying student-centered teaching techniques to contemporary music. Works to be determined.

How does one teach novelty? Contemporary music constantly seeks the new - new works, new techniques, new languages, new composers. The instrumental teacher, in contrast, is a creature of the past, passing along traditions and hard-earned learned experience. How can educators resolve this paradox, particularly when confronted with an eager student wishing to study a new work of which the teacher is ignorant? By exploring a set of core interpretive principles pulled from over a decade of experience performing with the Ensemble intercontemporain, this workshop aims to help students and teachers alike navigate the unknown of tomorrow's music.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 LUNCH

15 : 30 - 17 : 00 IVS PROJECT / VIOLA ORCHESTRA

Project 180 LECTURE/RECITAL/WORKSHOP World

Raiders of the The Lost Tone - An epic hunt through 50 Years of congresses

Soloists: Paultje Klerx (Netherlands), Blandina Dimande (Mozambique) & Kirin Howat (England)

Journalist: Emlyn Stam

Viola ensembles from a variety of students of University's global wide

Viola Orchestra: participants of the daily morning orchestra sessions

Soloists: participating viola soloists from the congress

Audience participation

Written and conducted by Karin Dolman

- A Musical Journey through 50 Viola Congresses -

To celebrate the 50th International Viola Congress, Raiders of the Lost Tone takes the audience on an imaginative adventure through five decades of viola history, rediscovery, and community. This playful musical theatre production blends fact and fantasy, weaving together scenes inspired by the great gatherings, personalities, and ideas that have shaped the viola world.

The story unfolds through the eyes of young violists who set out to uncover the Lost Tone, a mysterious symbol of the viola's soul and heritage. Guided by a journalist, they travel across time and continents, visiting legendary congresses, meeting iconic violists, and encountering forgotten composers and rediscovered repertoire. Along the way, they learn that the real treasure is not a single sound, but the global community of musicians who have kept the viola's voice alive for fifty years.

Music, theatre, narration, and visual storytelling merge in ten lively scenes connected by the Participatory Viola Orchestra, which unites players of all ages and levels on stage. The orchestra acts as both a musical thread and a collective character, giving voice to the spirit of the congress movement.

More than a performance, Raiders of the Lost Tone is a celebration of history, imagination, and human connection through music. It pays tribute to fifty years of the International Viola Society while looking forward to the next fifty: inspiring, educating, and uniting the generations of violists yet to come.

17 : 00 - 17 : 30 BREAK

23th January

Opéra National de Paris - Bastille > AMPHITHÉÂTRE (500 seats)

17 : 30	JENNIFER STUMM / ILLUMINA CONGRESS CLOSING CONCERT		
IVS Invitation	RECITAL	USA	



20 : 00	CLOSING GALA DINNER		
IVS Invitation	DINNER	World	



Venue to be confirmed

10 : 00 - 12 : 00 CAROL RODLAND

Project MASTERCLASS **USA**

Program

A key moment of exchange and transmission, the masterclasses offer students the invaluable opportunity to work with renowned artists and teachers. Each session invites participants to refine their technique, deepen their musical understanding, and explore new artistic perspectives under the guidance of exceptional violists.

12 : 00 - 13 : 00 LUNCH



13 : 00 - 14 : 00 HISTORY / VIOLA D'AMORE

Project I45 **RECITAL** **France**

Connections between the Viola d'Amore and the Viola Through the Centuries

Pierre Henri Xuereb, viola d'amore
Ruixin Niu, viola
Thibaud Verbe, cello
Simon Debierre, guqin

Johann Sebastian Bach — Andante in trio from Sonata No. 4, BWV 528
for viola d'amore, viola, and cello
Karl Stamitz — Theme and Variations from the Sonata for viola d'amore and viola
«Malbrough s'en va-t-en guerre»
Joseph Haydn — Trio for viola d'amore, viola, and cello No. 113 in D major
Florentine Mulsant — Chant Op. 117 for viola d'amore and viola
Maurice Ravel — Pavane and Laideronnette for viola d'amore, viola, and guqin

This program explores the interplay between the viola and the viola d'amore from the Baroque period to today. All the composers featured have shown a close or indirect interest in the viola d'amore. Joseph Haydn composed over 120 trios for baryton (the viola d'amore's "big brother"), viola, and cello. The trio presented here is performed in its original version, published by Henle. Maurice Ravel supported Henri Casadesus' petition to include viola d'amore in the symphony orchestra. Karl Stamitz, a virtuoso of the viola d'amore, clearly wrote his D major concerto for viola with technical possibilities specific to the viola d'amore in mind. Johann Sebastian Bach enchants us with his personal use of the instrument in several cantatas and in his two-violas d'amore solos in the St. John Passion. Florentine Mulsant has written several works for viola d'amore dedicated to me: Prelude and Dance, Op. 101, this Chant Op. 117, and more recently, a trio for viola d'amore, viola, and percussion. The last two works in the program (Mulsant and Ravel) appear on the CD The Silk Roads (Indesens-Calliope, September 2025), featuring violist Ruixin Niu. The inclusion of the guqin, one of China's oldest instruments, allows us to hear rich intercultural interactions, reflecting the symbolic role of the viola d'amore across centuries.

Project I67 **LECTURE** **Italy**

The viola d'amore at the Belle Époque: Renaissance or Continuity?

Carlos María Solare, viola

Original music and arrangements by Louis van Waefelghem and Henri Casadesus (performed live and from historical recordings)

The viola d'amore flourished in the 18th century, with Vivaldi, Ariosti, Graupner, Hoffmeister, and Stamitz composing for its varied forms before it settled into seven playing and seven sympathetic strings tuned in D major. As music moved to larger venues, its delicate sound faded from use, surviving mainly in Paris, notably in Meyerbeer's Les Huguenots (1836). Around 1900, two Parisian groups, both called Société des Instruments Anciens, revived early music and spotlighted the viola d'amore. Louis van Waefelghem and Henri-Gustave Casadesus performed both arrangements and new works; Casadesus, known for the disputed "J. C. Bach" and "Handel" viola concertos, also composed the 24 Préludes in all keys, challenging the limits of D-major tuning. This lecture traces the instrument's evolution and Belle Époque revival, focusing on repertoire shaped by van Waefelghem and Casadesus.

23th January

Opéra National de Paris - Bastille >

STUDIO (230 seats)

14:00 - 15:00

AMERICAN MUSIC

Project 20

RECITAL

France

Errs and Dances for Viola Quartet by Richard Auldson Clark

Manhattan Contemporary Chamber Ensemble
Richard Auldson Clark, viola I
Colette Abel, viola II
Melinda Benzel, viola III
Cassandra Tosh, viola IV

Errs and Dances for Viola Quartet — Richard Auldson Clark (b. 1964)

- I. Carol (for M.R.)
- II. Musette (for R.W.)
- III. Pavanne (for G.F.)
- IV. Canarios (for G.S.)
- V. Hymn (for A.H.)
- VI. Rigadoun (for B.B.)

Performance by the Manhattan Contemporary Chamber Ensemble of a new work by Richard Auldson Clark. Errs and Dances for Viola Quartet was premiered in 2024 in Indianapolis and performed in New York City that same year. The six movements are each inspired by a different composer whose initials follow each movement (similar to the idea of Enigma Variations by Elgar). Familiar motifs are quoted or distorted to present a vigorous new work that should be an important addition to the Viola repertoire. Presenting a new Viola Quartet for the International Viola Congress will be an intriguing and engaging addition to the conference, performed by an ensemble specializing in new music.

Project 37

LECTURE RECITAL

USA

Mosaic: Viola Ensembles by Black and Latino Composers

Hillary Herndon, viola
Students from the University of Tennessee Viola Studio: Jackson Howard, Libby Gibson, Ian Skelly, Emily Wankerl, Anna Robertson, Michael Pasto, Violet van Gyzen, Violet Peterson, Cole Taylor Filipp

Works will be selected from Book I of the Mosaic anthology

Ignatius Sancho (1729–1780) — Minuet #1
Jose Bernardo Alzedo (1788–1878) — La Chicha
Thomas Wiggins (1849–1908) — Water in the Moonlight
Teresa Carreño (1853–1917) — Le Sommeil de l'Enfant
Brasílio Itiberê da Cunha (1846–1913) — Gavotte
James Herbert "Eubie" Blake (1887–1983) — The Chevy Chase
Francis Johnson (1792–1844) — Victoria Gallop
Nora Douglas Holt (c. 1884–1974) — Negro Dance

This lecture performance will feature works by Black and Latino composers from throughout history, arranged for Viola Ensemble. A brief description of how the project came about, along with introductions to each composer performed will be shared.

