



Momenta Quartet and Friends

David Glaser
(b. 1952)

All One Breath for soprano, clarinet, piano and
string quartet (2015, rev. 2019)

Ileana Perez Velazquez
(b. 1964)

Elegía for String Quartet (2017)

Commissioned by the Fromm Foundation

****Intermission****

Stephanie Griffin
(b. 1973)

The Leopard for soprano, clarinet and piano (1999)
(World Premiere)
Text by Lorenzo Thomas, used with permission
by Blue Wind Press

Ileana Perez Velazquez

Vuelo for soprano, string quartet, and piano (2019)
(World premiere)
Text by Miguel Hernández

Aaron Copland
(1900 – 1990)

Sextet (1937) for string quartet, clarinet, and piano

- I. *Allegro vivace*—
- II. *Lento*—
- III. *Finale: Precise and rhythmic*

Momenta Quartet

Emilie-Anne Gendron and Alex Shiozaki, violins
Stephanie Griffin, viola
Michael Haas, cello
featuring
Sharon Harms, soprano
Ben Fingland, clarinet
Christopher Oldfather piano
Carl Bettendorf, conductor

Friday, April 5, 2019

8:00 p.m.

Chapin Hall

Williamstown, Massachusetts

*Please turn off cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.*

Praised as “superb”, “luscious-toned”, “extraordinarily precise and expressive”, and “dramatically committed and not averse to risk” by the *New York Times*, young American soprano **Sharon Harms** is known for fearless performances and passionate interpretations of works new and old for the recital, concert, and operatic stage. She is a member of the Argento Ensemble, and has sung with Da Capo Chamber Players, East Coast Contemporary Ensemble, Eighth Blackbird, Ensemble Recherche, Ensemble Signal, International Contemporary Ensemble, Limón Dance Company, MET Opera Chamber Orchestra, Pacifica Quartet, Simon Bolivar Orchestra, Talea Ensemble, and Third Coast Percussion, among others, and has appeared at the American Academy in Rome, June in Buffalo and the MATA Festival. She teaches at the Composer’s Conference and has recorded for Albany, Bridge, and Innova Records.

The performances of clarinetist **Benjamin Finland** have been praised for their “spiritedness and humor,” “unflinching precision and energy,” and “eloquence and passion” (*New York Times*). A founding member of the new-music collective counter)induction and member of the Dorian Wind Quintet, he has performed, recorded, and toured worldwide with a variety of artists—ranging in scope from Pierre Boulez and the Ensemble Intercontemporain, to jazz legend Ornette Coleman and pop icon Elton John, as well as the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and the New Jersey Festival Orchestra, of which he is principal clarinetist. He holds degrees from Juilliard and teaches at the Third Street Music School in NYC.

Pianist **Christopher Oldfather**’s eclectic career on all keyboard instruments has taken him as far as Moscow and Tokyo. The New York Philharmonic, the San Francisco Symphony, and Ensemble Moderne in Germany have all presented him as soloist, and he is a longtime member of Boston’s acclaimed Collage New Music ensemble.

Carl Christian Bettendorf is a New York-based composer/conductor. Born in Hamburg, Germany, he studied composition with Hans-Jürgen von Bose and Wolfgang Rihm before receiving his doctorate from Columbia University under Tristan Murail. He has had residencies at the Cité des Arts (Paris) and the MacDowell Colony, and commissions from the Fromm Foundation and Ralph Kaminsky Fund. He has conducted *Wet Ink*, *counter)induction*, the Talea Ensemble, the Ostravská Banda (Czech Republic) and the Opéra National de Montpellier (France). Mr. Bettendorf currently directs the Manhattanville College Community Orchestra and has served as assistant conductor of the American Composers Orchestra.

Momenta: the plural of momentum – four individuals in motion towards a common goal. This is the idea behind the Momenta Quartet, whose eclectic vision encompasses contemporary music of all aesthetic backgrounds alongside great music from the past. The New York City-based quartet has premiered over 150 works, collaborated with over 200 living composers and in the words of The New Yorker’s Alex Ross, “few American players assume Haydn’s idiom with such ease.” Momenta has performed at The Library of Congress, the International Cervantino Festival (Mexico), the Ostrava Music Days (Czech Republic); and has traveled in Southeast Asia and Bolivia. Its annual Momenta Festival has met critical acclaim since 2015. The quartet has received prestigious commission grants from the Koussevitzky, Jerome and Barlow Foundations, and its debut album, *Similar Motion*, is available on Albany Records.

See music.williams.edu for full details and additional happenings as well as to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

Upcoming Events

Joanna Kurkowicz, violin; Doris Stevenson, piano - Faculty Recital

Sun Apr 7 | Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall | 3:00 PM

Prof. Gavin Steingo - Class of 1960 Lecture

Mon Apr 8 | Bernhard Music Center, room 30 | 4:15 PM

Kurt Rosenwinkel Quintet - Visiting Artist Series

Mon Apr 8 | Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall | 8:00 PM

MIDWEEKMUSIC in the Chapel

Wed Apr 10 | Thompson Memorial Chapel | 12:15 PM

Piano Master Class - Jeremy Denk - Visiting Artist Series

Wed Apr 10 | Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall | 4:15 PM

Jeremy Denk, piano - Visiting Artist Series

Thu Apr 11 | Chapin Hall | 8:00 PM

Williams Chamber Choir

Fri Apr 12 | Williams College Museum of Art (WCMA) | 4:00 PM

Eya Ensemble - Visiting Artist Series

Fri Apr 12 | Chapin Hall | 8:00 PM

Williams Handbell Choir

Sat Apr 13 | Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall | 4:00 PM

Williams Percussion Ensemble

Sat Apr 13 | Chapin Hall | 8:00 PM