# The Best of Baroque



## SHERMAN

### CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

*Eliot T. Bailen, Artistic Director*

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**Program Support Provided by:**

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***These Baroque Concerts are dedicated to Bill McGoldrick remembered for his devotion to the Sherman Chamber Ensemble.***

**SHERMAN CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**
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# SHERMAN CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

# The Best of Baroque

**March 28, 2026, 4 pm**
Christ Church, Pawling, NY

**March 29, 2026, 4 pm**
St. Andrew's Church, Kent, CT

Evan Shinners, keyboard
Susan Rotholz, flute
Noah Kay, oboe
Jane Chung, violin
Sarah Adams, viola
Eliot Bailen, cello

## PROGRAM

Trio Sonata in Bb major Op. 2 No. 3 HWV 388 arr. by S. Fryer for flute, viola and continuo — G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
- Andante
- Allegro
- Larghetto
- Allegro

Concerto for Violin and Oboe in C Minor, BWV 1060R — J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
- Allegro
- Adagio
- Allegro

Passacaglia for Violin Solo — Heinrich I. F. Biber (1644-1704)

Keyboard Concerto in E Major, BWV 1053 — J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
- (Allegro - No tempo indicated)
- Siciliano
- Allegro

(continued)

## PROGRAM
(continued)

Concerto for Flute and Violin, TWV 52:e2 in E Minor — G.F. Telemann (1681-1767)

- Largo
- Allegro
- Largo
- Presto

## A NOTE ON THE 2026 SEASON



This season, the Sherman Chamber Ensemble is proud to be part of America250, the nationwide commemoration of our 250th anniversary as a nation.

It is a milestone that invites us not just to celebrate, but to reflect on the full sweep of our history—through continuous musical evolution. The blending of the formal and the folk, the written and the oral—they are the true heartbeat of the 'American Genius' we celebrate today."

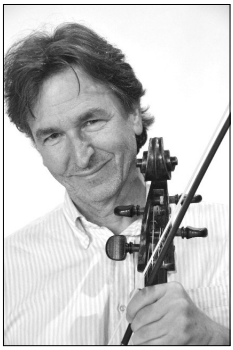
From the intimate acoustics of St. Andrew's Church and the Merryall Center to the twilight air of Chesterwood, the JCC and St. John's Church on New Milford's Green, we invite you to hear these stories told through the strings and winds of our Ensemble.

As a part of this historic national moment, we aim to spark a renewed love for American history by letting the music reveal the complexities, the struggles, and the shared beauty of our first 250 years.

We hope you can join us throughout the summer as we explore the melodies of the parlor, the rhythms of the field, and the enduring 'American Genius' that belongs to us all.

Together, let us celebrate two and a half centuries of the music that defines us."

# THE PERFORMERS



**Eliot Bailen** has an active career as an artistic director, cellist, composer and teacher.

***"At Merkin Hall (NYC) cellist Eliot Bailen displayed a warm focused tone, concentrated expressiveness and admirable technical command always at the service of the Music."***
*- Strings Magazine*

Founder and Artistic Director of the Sherman Chamber Ensemble, now in its 42nd year, whose performances the New York Times has described as "the Platonic ideal of a chamber music concert," Mr. Bailen is also Founder and Artistic Director of Chamber Music at Rodeph Sholom in New York and Artistic Director of the New York Chamber Ensemble.

Principal cello of the New Jersey Festival Orchestra, New York Chamber Ensemble, Orchestra New England, Teatro Grattacielo and the New Choral Society, Mr. Bailen has performed regularly with the Saratoga Chamber Players, Cape May Music Festival, Sebago-Long Lake Chamber Music Festival, Bronx Arts Ensemble as well as with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, New York City Opera and Ballet, Oratorio Society, American Symphony, Stamford Symphony, New Jersey Symphony and is heard frequently in numerous Broadway shows.

Among Mr. Bailen's commissions are an Octet, a Double Concerto for Flute and Cello, Perhaps a Butterfly, Saratoga Sextet, The Tiny Mustache (a musical) and recently a Dectet ("Inclusion") commissioned by the New Choral Society. Mr. Bailen is recipient of over forty commissions for his "Song to Symphony" for schools (subject of a NY Times feature article Sept. 2006 and winner of a Yale Alumni Grant).

In 2002 he received the Norman Vincent Peale Award for Positive Thinking. Mr. Bailen received his Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) from Yale University and an M.B.A. from NYU. He is on the cello and chamber music faculty at Columbia University, Barnard College and Teachers College.



**Sarah Adams** has appeared as viola soloist with the Riverside and Jupiter Symphonies in Alice Tully Hall, Orchestra of St. Luke's at Caramoor, Berkshire Bach Ensemble, Washington Square Music Festival, Philharmonia Virtuosi, and Adelphi Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Adams is principal violist of the Riverside Symphony, a member of American Ballet Theatre, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Little Orchestra Society and New York City Opera, and performs frequently with New York City Ballet.

She is a long-time member of Sherman Chamber Ensemble and the New York Chamber Ensemble, and former violist of the Cassatt, Tahoe, and Roerich Quartets. She performed and recorded with Smithsonian Chamber Players, Windham Chamber Orchestra and Parnassus, and appeared as guest artist with the Amernet Quartet, Haverford College Music Series, Bard Summerscape, Friends of Mozart, Si-Yo Chamber Concerts, and the Metropolitan Museum Chamber Series.

Ms. Adams appeared as recitalist for the Hong Kong Chamber Series, Houston Chamber Music Society, Parnassus, New York Viola Society, Long Island Composer's Alliance, Brooklyn Philharmonic's Off the Wall series and at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC.

She was formerly principal violist of the Brooklyn Philharmonic, associate principal violist of the Houston Symphony Orchestra, guest principal violist of American Symphony Orchestra, and appeared frequently with Orpheus, the New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera. Summer festivals include NYC Ballet at SPAC, Festival Napa Valley, Classical Tahoe, Cape May Music Festival, Windham Music Festival, Seal Bay American Chamber Music Festival, Music Mountain, and Bargemusic.

Broadway credits include Jerome Robbin's *Broadway, Kiss of the Spiderwoman, Candide, Aida, La Boheme and Swan Lake*. She has recorded for the Atlantic, Dorian, Koch, New World, Nimbus, Nonesuch and Virgin labels.

Ms. Adams has been a Music Associate at Columbia University since 1993, where she teaches viola and chamber music, and is director of Viola Hour.

Sarah and her family live in Cortlandt Manor, N.Y, where she is an amateur gardener, bread baker, mandolinist, and chief dog walker.



Violinist **Jane Chung** is a member of the American Ballet Theatre Orchestra in New York City and was a founding member of the Athabasca String Trio and the Radian String Quartet.

A dedicated chamber musician, advocate of new music and educator, she has performed across the United States, Europe and Asia, and with countless ensembles including the New York Philharmonic, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and Seattle Symphony.

She has taught violin and chamber music at Yale University, Juilliard and Mannes Pre-College Divisions, and Mark O'Connor Fiddle Camp, and served as resident musician for The Walden School for five summers.

A frequent collaborator with choreographers and contemporary dance companies, Ms. Chung was resident musician for Cheylyn Lavagnino Dance for 10 years, as well as for Cedar Lake Contemporary Dance, for whom she managed the company's first project with live music. She has appeared at venues such as the Sadler's Wells, Jacob's Pillow, Joyce Theater, BAM and the Baryshnikov Arts Center.

Ms. Chung was winner of the Montgomery Symphony Violin Competition and both the graduate and undergraduate concerto competitions at Yale University (B.A., M.M.). She completed her musical studies in Vienna at the Universitaet fuer Musik und darstellende Kunst as a Fulbright grant recipient.



Born into a family of classical musicians, **Noah Kay** began playing the oboe at age fifteen. He enjoys a varied career as both an orchestral and chamber musician.

In 2017, he joined the Colorado Springs Philharmonic as Principal Oboe, and in September 2022, was appointed Principal Oboe of Symphony in C in Camden, NJ.

Mr. Kay has performed and toured Japan, Europe, and the US with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, including a recording on the Deutsche Grammophon label made in Warsaw. He has also performed with the NYC-based Knights, the International Contemporary Ensemble, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Winnipeg Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Colorado Symphony, Princeton Symphony, and ProMusica Columbus.

In 2024, Mr. Kay became a member of the eminent woodwind quintet WindSync (MKI Artists) for its 16th season. Notable recent performances in 2025 have included a recital with renowned pianist John Kimura Parker in Corpus Christi, TX, and residencies at Emerald City Music and Chamber Music Northwest.

He has appeared at festivals such as Nantucket's Rossini Club; Viva Bach Peterborough, with which he was a featured soloist in 2023, playing J.S. Bach's Concerto for Oboe and Violin with violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv; the Sebago-Long Lake Music Festival; Manchester Music Festival; Norfolk Chamber Music Festival; Sarasota Music Festival; Cape May Music Festival; National Repertory Orchestra; and Chautauqua Symphony, with whom he was appointed 2nd Oboe in August 2023.

As a soloist, Kay has been featured twice with the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, playing the Strauss Oboe Concerto in 2023, and the Haydn Sinfonia Concertante in 2022. He has also appeared with the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs in 2021, performing the Vaughan Williams Concerto.

Mr. Kay received his Bachelor of Music degree at the Eastman School of Music, and his Master's degree at Yale, studying under Richard Killmer and Stephen Taylor, respectively. He is currently a doctoral candidate at Stony Brook University, studying with James Austin Smith. A native of New Jersey, Kay now resides in Queens, New York



Winner of Young Concert Artists with Hexagon Piano and Winds and of Concert Artists Guild as a soloist, **Susan Rotholz** is Principal flute of the New York Pops, Greenwich Symphony and The New York Chamber Ensemble and is a member of the Orchestra of St. Luke's and the Little Orchestra Society.

She is Co-founder of the Sherman Chamber Ensemble. Ms. Rotholz has recorded and toured internationally with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. She also appears each season with the Cape May Music Festival, Greenwich Chamber Players, Saratoga Chamber Players and the Sebago Long Lake Chamber Music Festival.

Ms. Rotholz attended the Marlboro Music Festival and was principal and solo flutist with the New England Bach Festival for 25 years

Her recording of the *Bach Flute Sonatas and the Solo Partita* with Kenneth Cooper, fortepiano, is described by The Wall Street Journal as "eloquent and musically persuasive."

Recently, Ms. Rotholz released *American Tapestry, Duos for Flute and Piano* performing the Beaser Variations, commissioned by her in 1982, Copland Duo, Muczynski and Liebermann Sonatas presented by Bridge Records as "…brilliant instrumental virtuosity with deep understanding of this quintessentially American repertoire."

Ms. Rotholz is an Adjunct Artist in Music at Vassar College and continues to teach at Columbia University/Barnard College,

Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College and the Manhattan School of Music Pre-College. She also was guest performer and teacher at the Colorado College Music Festival.

She holds degrees from Queens College (BM) and Yale School of Music (MM). In 2002 she received the Norman Vincent Peale Award for Positive Thinking.



Founder of *The Bach Store* and host of *The WTF Bach Podcast*, pianist **Evan Shinners** began his musical studies at age 9 and made his orchestral debut at age 12.

He grew up in the tradition of European sacred music, receiving lessons in singing and choral conducting from a young age.

He attended The Juilliard School in New York where he studied piano with Jerome Lowenthal. He holds two degrees from the institution (BM'08, MM '10).

Since 2010, Mr. Shinners has devoted himself almost exclusively to the study and performance of the works of J.S. Bach. In 2011, he began studying the clavichord, and in 2018 began his ongoing harpsichord studies with harpsichordist Béatrice Martin.

Mr. Shinners became a Yamaha artist in 2015. Using the Disklavier, he was able to record Bach's "organ sonatas" on piano – the first of its kind. He also commenced on a massive recording project of Bach's complete solo keyboard music on Bösendorfer instruments.

In 2018 Mr. Shinners founded a non-profit organization with the goal of "bringing Bach to the masses in non-typical venues". Awarded the 'Alumni Enterprise Award' by the Music Academy of the West, in November of 2018 Evan opened "The Bach

Store" in a 5,000 sq. ft. former bank on 56th and Broadway in Manhattan. There, he performed Bach for five hours, every day, for 37 consecutive days.

In the evenings, Mr. Shinners hosted different guest artists every night, seeing nearly 70 different musicians perform Bach in the space during the run. His efforts landed him on the front page of the New York Times Arts and the Wall Street Journal. He was interviewed by German Public Radio and other international news sources.

In 2019, Mr. Shinners launched a second Bach Store around the corner from the New York Stock Exchange. Between the two installations, the repertoire that was covered - in free nightly concerts - was impressive: the complete works for solo keyboard, violin, cello and flute, complete cycles of violin and harpsichord works, the flute and harpsichord works, motets for acappella chorus, three of the Brandenburg Concertos, and more.

Both installations were visited by some 10,000 people. The Thüringer Bachwochen in Bach's home state of Thuringia hosted the third Bach Store 2022, and is scheduled to reopen in 2024. Mr. Shinners plans for more stores to open in London, Switzerland and beyond.

Mr. Shinners is also the host of the ambitious, "The WTF Bach Podcast" who's first season seeks to explain the beauty and structure of "The Art of Fugue" to someone with no previous musical knowledge.

Even with such daunting subject matter, the podcast now in its second season boasts 50,000+ listeners in 100+ countries. The guests interviewed are a who's who in current Bach thought: jazz pianist Brad Mehldau, harpsichordist Robert Hill, mandolinist Chris Thile, Conductor Joshua Rifkin, and former director of the Bach Archive in Leipzig, Christoph Wolff.

Since 2015 Mr. Shinners has performed an exhaustive list of the 'complete works' of J.S. Bach, nearly all of them from memory. Currently he is recording the complete works in an ambitious 24 volume set.

# 1776 Unplugged

## The Classical and Folk Roots of Early America



### Friday, June 19, 7:30 pm

The JCC, Sherman

### Saturday, June 20, 5 pm

St. John's Church, on the Green in New Milford

**On the same mountain, two distinct musical worlds coexisted**.

In the Monticello Parlor, Thomas Jefferson and his family played the structured sonatas of Europe on the harpsichord and violin.

Down on Mulberry Row, the enslaved community used the gourd banjo and the fiddle to maintain African rhythms and create a music of survival.

Join us for a most enlightening performance curated by acclaimed violinist and fiddle player **Paul Woodiel**. Through this immersive program, Woodiel bridges the divide between the salon and the quarters, bringing the complex, intertwined soundscape of early America to life.

Purchase tickets at SCEmusic.org.