

ENSEMBLE *Mélange*

THE ARTISTS:

Ariadne Greif - Soprano
Stuart Brezczinski - Oboe
Moran Katz - Clarinet
Rubén Rengel - Violin
Sofia Nowik - Cello
Mika Sasaki - Piano

BIG ARTS Sanibel – January 21, 2027

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) - Sonatine
I. Modéré - II. Mouvement de menuet - III. Animé (arr. Jonathan Keren)
Full Ensemble **12 minutes**

Béla Bartók (1881-1945) - Folk music from *Mikrokosmos* (arr. Jonathan Keren)
Full Ensemble **5:30 minutes**

George Gershwin (1898-1937) - Three Preludes (arr. Heifetz)
Clarinet & Piano **6 minutes**

W. A. Mozart (1756-1791) - Divertimenti K. 439b Nos. 1-5
Selections
Oboe, Clarinet & Cello **7 minutes**

Robert Schumann (1810-1856) - Romance Op. 94
Oboe & Piano **3:30 minutes**

Clara Schumann (1819-1896) - Three Romances, Op. 22
I. Andante Molto
Violin & Piano **3:30 minutes**

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) - Piano Quartet No. 1, Op. 25
IV. Rondo alla zingarese
Violin, Oboe, Cello & Piano **8 minutes**

INTERMISSION

Avner Dorman (b. 1975) - Mantra
Full Ensemble **5 minutes**

Giovanni Legrenzi (1626-1690) - "Lumi, potete piangere" from *La divisione del mondo* (1675)
Oboe, Violin, Recorder, Cello & Voice **3:30 minutes**

G. P. Telemann (1681-1767) - Concerto à 4 in A Minor, TWV 43:a3
I. Adagio
Oboe, Recorder, Violin & Cello **3 minutes**

Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908) - Introduction and Tarantelle (Op. 43)
Violin & Piano **6 minutes**

Alma Mahler-Werfel (1879-1964) - Three Songs
"Laue Sommernacht" - "Ich wandle unter Blumen" - "Ansturm"
Soprano & Piano **6 minutes**

Anton Webern (1883-1945) - Two Pieces for Cello and Piano
I. Langsam - II. Langsam
Cello & Piano **4:30 minutes**

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) - Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 11
I. Allegretto con brio - II. Adagio - III. Tema: Pria ch'io l'impegno. Allegretto
Clarinet, Cello & Piano **18 minutes**

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) - Overture to *Candide* (arr. Jonathan Keren)
Oboe, Clarinet, Violin, Cello, & Piano **5 minutes**

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992) - Libertango (arr. Noam Sivan)
Full Ensemble **3 minutes**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
www.ENSEMBLEMELANGE.com info@ENSEMBLEMELANGE.com
Find us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter!

Ensemble Mélange, formerly known as SHUFFLE Concert, is a joyful sextet of all-star virtuosos. Ensemble Mélange shakes up the concert experience, forges a personal connection with the audience, and mixes tried-and-true repertoire with a smorgasbord of jewels from distant genres. Usually our concerts are reformatted as a musician's party game; after each piece, members of the audience are chosen to pick the next piece from an extensive menu organized by style, nationality, and time period. Whether you're a purist or a populist, a snob or a noob, eight years old or eighty years old, you'll leave charmed and punch-drunk on a piece you didn't know you were going to love. With a philosophical investment in reaching out to children, the group is dedicated to bringing in the next generation of music lovers, as well as having good fun with the current one.

Under the group's current name as well as under the group's original name, SHUFFLE Concert, we have performed coast to coast in the US, Canada, toured five times in the Middle East, and have appeared in venues ranging from Carnegie Hall and Merkin Hall to The Duplex in New York, performing arts centers across the country, and festivals like Newport Classical, Strings, and Ottawa Chamberfest. We released an album, held a composition competition, and gave concerts, lessons, master classes, and talks in countless schools, universities, and conservatories. Among many other memorable school trips, we loved giving side-by-side performances with fabulous elementary, middle school, and high school band and string orchestra students on several residencies in Steamboat Springs, and we treasure the memory of an unforgettable afternoon with high school students on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation in Arizona.

Praised by the New York Times for his "eloquent" playing, **STUART BRE CZINSKI** is a New York and Louisiana-based oboist, composer, audio engineer, and educator whose early interest in making unusual sounds on the oboe has developed into a passion for creating and sharing innovative audio with audiences everywhere. An avid proponent of chamber and contemporary music, Bre czinski is a member of the City of Tomorrow, a woodwind quintet dedicated to the promotion and performance of contemporary works. He is the principal oboist of NOVUS NY and Contemporaneous, a member of Decoda, and he has been a collaborator with Bang on a Can, Talea Ensemble, the International Contemporary Ensemble, and the New York New Music Ensemble. Bre czinski was the winner of the 2018 Matthew Ruggiero International Woodwind Competition, and he received an honorable mention at the 2015 IDRS Gillet-Fox International Competition. He is currently serving as Visiting Assistant Professor of Oboe at Louisiana State University. stuartbre czinski.com

Soprano **ARIADNE GREIF** has premiered upwards of thirty new operas and nearly 300 new chamber works, and is praised for her "luminous, expressive voice," "searing top notes," and "dusky depths" (*The New York Times*). Recent highlights include performances at the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Joe Hisaishi, a tour of North America, Europe, and Australia with the string quartet Brooklyn Rider, including at Lincoln Center's Summer Festival at Alice Tully Hall, concerts with AMOC, Orchestra of St. Luke's, and A Far Cry, and singing and dancing as Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* with Opera Saratoga. She performed the stage premiere of Georg Friedrich Haas's monodrama *Atthis*, which *The New York Times* called "a solo high-wire act for Ms. Greif," praising her "raw, no-holds-barred performance" in "one of the most searingly painful and revealing operatic performances in recent times." She has performed at Aldeburgh Festival, Ojai Festival, Carnegie Hall, Sydney Chamber Opera, Opera Philadelphia, Park Avenue Armory, The Oslo Opera House, and Zürich Tonhalle, alongside William Kentridge, Caroline Shaw, Raven Chacon, Gabriel Kahane, Pekka Kuusisto, The Knights, and JACK Quartet. ariadnegreifsoprano.com

First Prize winner of the 2013 Ima Hogg Competition and the 2009 Freiburg International Clarinet Competition in Germany, Clarinetist **MORAN KATZ** also won the Second Prize at the Beijing International Music Competition for Clarinet in China and the First Prize and Overall Prize at the Midland/Odessa "National Young Artist Competition" in Texas. Her performance credits include recitals for the Phillips Collection in Washington D.C., the Dame Myra Hess Recital Series in Chicago, the Detroit Institute of Arts, Rhinebeck Chamber Music Society and the Fine Arts Recital Series in Sarasota, FL; a NY debut recital at Merkin Concert Hall as part of the Tuesday Matinee Recital Series and a Debut at the Chamber Music Hall of the Berlin Philharmonic. She received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees and an Artist Diploma from The Juilliard School, where she studied with Charles Neidich and was admitted with presidential distinction and a full scholarship. Ms. Katz was a member of Ensemble ACJW--The Academy, a program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute in partnership with the NYC department of Education, performing chamber music at Carnegie Hall and bringing classical music to students in the NYC public schools. Ms. Katz was on the faculty of Vassar College (2016-19) and coached chamber music groups at the Juilliard Pre College division. katzmoran.com

Cellist **SOFIA NOWIK** is an active performer and dedicated teacher. She is the principal cellist of the Allentown Symphony. She also plays regularly as substitute musician with the New Jersey Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, American Ballet Theatre, and the American Symphony. She is a member of the Exponential Ensemble, an NYC-based chamber group, and has also performed with other NYC-based orchestral and chamber ensembles such as PhilaSonia, Shattered Glass, Ensemble LPR, the Metropolis Ensemble, and has performed and toured for seven years with Ensemble Mélange,. As a soloist she has performed concerti with local orchestras in New Jersey, including the Livingston Symphony, Manalapan Symphony, The Tim Keyes Consort, Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the New Jersey Youth Orchestra, as well as the Urban Playground Chamber Orchestra in New York City. She is a graduate of the Juilliard School where she earned both her Bachelor and Master degrees studying with David Soyer, Bonnie Hampton, and Darrett Adkins. Sofia is the proud teacher of fifteen young cellists in the Chatham area of NJ, and is also a frequent coach for the New Jersey Youth Orchestra.

Praised as an "excellent soloist" of "great virtuosity" (NY Concert Review), with performances depicted as "thrilling" (Boston Globe), violinist **RUBÉN RENGEL** is quickly gaining recognition as a remarkably gifted artist. Rubén was the winner of the Robert F. Smith Prize at the 2018 Sphinx Competition, the Cleveland Institute of Music Concerto Competition (2014), recipient of the Sallie Shepherd Perkins Prize (2019) and the Anna Y. Tringas Award (2013), and winner of the Juan Bautista Plaza National Violin Competition of Venezuela (2011). He has appeared as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, Houston Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, Vermont Symphony, and Venezuela Symphony, among others. As an avid chamber musician, he has collaborated with Joseph Silverstein, Pamela Frank, Peter Wiley, David Shifrin, Joel Krosnick, Timothy Eddy, and Gilbert Kalish. Rubén is a former member of the Autana Trio, prize winners at the 2015 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition. In addition to classical music, Rubén has extensive experience performing Venezuelan folk music and Jazz. Rubén plays on a 1723 Carlo Bergonzi violin on loan from a generous collection, and he is a Kun Shoulder Rest Featured Artist. rubenrengel.com

Praised as a "superb interpreter" (Fanfare) and for her "virtuosity... and sparkling sound" (Times Argus), pianist **MIKA SASAKI** enjoys a versatile career as a soloist, chamber musician, and educator. She has performed across the U.S. and in the U.K., Italy, Japan, and Switzerland, appearing in venues such as the Library of Congress, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and Tokyo Bunka Kaikan. A passionate chamber musician, Mika has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Manhattan Chamber Players, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston, as well as in festivals such as Tanglewood, Music@Menlo, Chigiana, Yellow Barn, Aspen, and Taos. She is a member of Decoda, the affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall, and has played with Ensemble Mélange for four years. Dedicated to audience engagement, she has presented interactive performances across the country, including residencies at String Theory and Chamber Music Northwest. Based in New York City, Mika is a faculty member at The Juilliard School, where she teaches keyboard skills, piano, and chamber music in the College, Pre-College, and Extension Divisions. She is an alumna of Peabody (B.M., M.M.), Carnegie Hall's Ensemble Connect, and Juilliard (D.M.A.). When not at the piano, she can be found tending to her houseplants, cooking, or chasing after her cat. mikasasaki.com