

TRIO EMS

EMMA ANDERSEN, VIOLIN MATTHEW GLASCOCK, CELLO SEAN BOTKIN, PIANO

INTERMISSION

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Emma Andersen - Violin

Emma Andersen is a dedicated performer and teacher who has performed across the Midwest as a soloist with the Austin Symphony Orchestra in 2019 and Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra in 2022. She has also played as a section violinist in many orchestras across Iowa, Minnesota, and Indiana including the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra, Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra, and Orchestra Indiana. She is currently studying to receive her Master of Music: Performance at the University of Northern Iowa with Dr. Nash Ryder. In her undergraduate at Ball State University, studying with Professor Anna Vayman, she was hired as the Concertmaster of the Fall opera for two years, won honorable mention in the Undergraduate Concerto Competition, and was an active chamber musician performing both traditional classical music and new music. Having premiered multiple new music pieces in ensembles as well as a soloist, she has continued her participation in both modern and classical performance through her masters as Concertmaster of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra.

She is very passionate about teaching as she believes that music is something that can change lives, and everyone should be allowed to learn and experience it. She is a current faculty member of the MacPhail Center for Music in Austin, MN as well as a teacher of her own private studio at Music Hill Studios. Throughout her education, she has had the opportunity to participate in masterclasses with renowned musicians and pedagogues including Joel Smirnoff, Kurt Sassmannshaus, Paul Kantor, Blair Milton, and I-Hao Lee.

Matthew Glascock - Cello

My earliest memory is of a sound. The cooing of a mourning dove perched on the phone line outside my bedroom window, to be specific. I'm told that before I could talk, I learned to load and start my parents record player and would listen to Stravinsky's Firebird Suite ad infinitum. I would be drifted off to sleep nightly by Chopin's Nocturnes lovingly played by my father on his little spinet piano. These solidified music as the central foundation upon which the rest of my world would be built. Bernstein's Young Peoples Concerts were never missed. "I can't live one day without hearing music, playing it, studying it, or thinking about it" are the words of the great maestro. There is no means of constructing a statement that more perfectly describes the importance of music to me. While my academic interests carried me into a profession based on the natural sciences, my spiritual world is utterly consumed by the miracle of organized sound we call music. My two most important and formative life experiences beyond home occurred through the UNI School of Music. Magically, while visiting home on break as a touring musician, I was selected by Robert "Chez" Washut to play bass in his remarkable Jazz Band I. He inspires striving for excellence as the only reasonable goal in one's life by demonstrating it ceaselessly. Among his innumerable life lessons, he taught me that anything is possible if you work hard enough. Next to my father, he is the most important man in my life. Now, as the twilight of my professional career draws near, once again the School of Music has provided me a wonderful opportunity to resume growing into an ever deeper and more meaningful relationship with the cello. I have been blessed with a series of amazing cello teachers at UNI who inspire greatness by demonstrating it. Stefan Reuss, Rowena Hammill, and Andrea DiGregorio (nee Reynolds) all helped write the first chapter of my cello-playing life. Thirty-five years later, the wonderful cellist Isidora Noikovic fires my desire

for achieving an ever more profound relationship with the instrument. My chamber music coach, teacher, collaborator, and most importantly, friend, the incomparable pianist Sean Botkin, fuels my drive to achieve artistic meaningfulness through his own passionate relationship with music. Their importance to my pursuit of an Artist Diploma in cello performance at UNI cannot be overstated. My new friend and chamber music partner, Emma Andersen has likewise set a very high bar with her wonderful musicianship. I have also been blessed by my membership in the wcfsymphony (since my freshman year of high school in 1979!). Joseph Giunta, Jack Graham, Elizabeth Schultz, and for the past 22 years Maestro Jason Weinberger have continuously thrilled me with the power of symphonic music. Finally, I would like to thank my wife, Pooneh Glascock, for always encouraging me to pursue my dreams. Music is life.

Sean Botkin - Piano

Pianist **Sean Botkin** began studying the piano at age five with his mother, making his first orchestral appearance four years later with the Honolulu Symphony. He went on to study privately with Neal O'Doan at the University of Washington and, under his direction, performed with the Seattle Symphony, Spokane Symphony, and Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra. Sean has garnered prizes in an impressive list of international piano competitions, including Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, Busoni International Piano Competition, Cleveland International Piano Competition, World Piano Competition in Cincinnati, Dong-A International Music Competition of Korea, International Music Competition of Japan and the Washington D.C. International Competition. A graduate of Stanford University, the Juilliard School, and Indiana University at South Bend, Sean has studied with eminent artists Adolph Baller, Martin Canin, and Alexander Toradze.

Sean has performed extensively in the United States, Europe, Central and South America, Asia, and Russia. He made his New York debut at Alice Tully Hall in 1993 performing Bartók's Concerto No. 2 with the Juilliard Symphony. Equally active in chamber music, Sean has performed with such artists as William Bennett, Helen Callus, Anibal Dos Santos, Mark Votapek, and members of the Maia Quartet. In 2012, sponsored by Alexander Rachmaninoff and the Rachmaninoff Foundation, he performed Rachmaninoff's 4th Piano Concerto with the Chicago Symphony at Ravinia, conducted by Gianandrea Noseda, and in 2013 with the Orchestra of the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia and guest conductor, Alexander Sladkovsky. In 2015, Sean performed Rachmaninoff's Trio Élegiaque No. 1 with Soohyun Kwon, violin, and Alexei Yupanqui Gonzales, cello (members of the New York Philharmonic) on the New York Ensembles Chamber Music Series at Merkin Hall. Reactions to Sean's performances typically are expressed with phrases such as "multidimensional talents", "superb musicianship", and "beautiful and rare musical experience".

He is currently Associate Professor of Piano at the University of Northern Iowa.

