(SEATTLE, WA) New York based **violinist Kristin Lee**, an accomplished musician who was recently awarded the Avery Fisher Career Grant, has co-founded a new chamber music series in the Puget Sound called Emerald City Music. Beginning performances in September 2016, this one-of-a-kind concert series combines 45 renowned artists from around the world with thematically programmed music, aimed at building new audiences.
2016–2017 SEASON OVERVIEW

The Concerts
Hand-crafted by violinist Kristin Lee, Artistic Director of Emerald City Music, each concert is a thematic glimpse at the chamber music repertory, featuring classical masterworks and newly composed music alike.

The Artists
Emerald City Music will present an impressive line-up of 45 in-demand touring musicians. Biographies and high-resolution images are available on the Emerald City Music website.

Artist Roster

VIOLIN
Steven Copes
Ani Kavafian
Tessa Lark
Kristin Lee
Philip Setzer
Scott St. John

CELLO
Ani Aznavoorian
Colin Carr
Jay Campbell
Ben Hong
Mihai Marica
David Requiro
Peter Wiley

WINDS
Tara O’Connor, flute
Romie de Guise-Langlois, clarinet

PERCUSSION
Christopher Froh
Ian Rosenbaum

PIANO
Michael Brown
Gloria Chien
Julio Elizalde
Conor Hanick
Michael Mizrahi
John Novacek
Hyeyeon Park

VIOLA
Roberto Diaz
Yura Lee
Matthew Lipman
Dimitri Murrath
Ben Ullrey
Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu

HARP
Bridget Kibbey

ENSEMBLES
The Dover Quartet
The Sebastians
WindSync
The Venues
Lee, alongside Executive Director Andrew Goldstein, crafted a concert experience unique to the cities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia, as further detailed below.

Concerts in the heart of South Lake Union
Nestled behind Kakao Coffee & Chocolate in South Lake Union is an intimate venue for music lovers. Concert attendees mingle with artists over local drinks before hearing an hour of incredible chamber music; live and up close. Geared at reaching Seattle’s millennial audience, the causal atmosphere – with no stage or assigned seating – gives listeners a place to enjoy timeless music in good company. Concerts are 60-minutes long and explore both classical works and newly composed music alike.

Seattle concerts are located at 415 Westlake in South Lake Union.
Dates: September 16, 2016; October 7, 2016; November 11, 2016; February 10, 2017; March 17, 2017; April 14, 2017; May 26, 2017

Concerts in the South Sound
Emerald City Music will host two performances in Tacoma, WA and five performances in Olympia, WA over the 2016/17 season. These full-length Saturday-night performances will feature the same 45 world-class musicians in the South Sound’s most acoustically dynamic concert halls.

Tacoma concerts are located at Lagerquist Concert Hall at Pacific Lutheran University. Dates: November 12, 2016; May 27, 2017

Olympia concerts are located at The Washington Center for the Performing Arts, the Minnaert Performing Arts Center, and Saint Michael’s Westside Chapel.
Dates: September 17, 2016; October 8, 2016; February 11, 2017; March 18, 2017; April 15, 2017
CONCERT DETAILS

Wanderlust: An Unforgettable Opening Night
For the series debut, Emerald City Music opens with a festive program showcasing music reminiscent of world travels. Traversing Barber’s rendition of early 1900’s New York as well as Tchaikovsky’s visits to Florence, Italy, this concert is a dazzling display of instrumental virtuosity.

Barber – Souvenirs, Suite for Piano Four Hands
Fung – Birdsong for Violin and Piano
Connesson – Techno Parade for Flute, Clarinet, and Piano
Ligeti – Six Bagatelles for Wind Quintet
Tchaikovsky – Souvenir de Florence for String Quartet

Kristin Lee, Philip Setzer, violins; Dimitri Murrath, Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu, violas; Colin Carr, Ben Hong, cello; Gloria Chien, John Novacek, pianos; WindSync Quintet: Garret Hudson, flute; Emily Tsai, oboe; Jack Marquardt, clarinet; Tracy Jacobson, bassoon; Anni Hochhalter, horn

Quartet in Spotlight: The Dover Quartet
The Dover Quartet – one of the world’s most in-demand ensembles – makes its Seattle and Olympia debut with an intimate evening of string quartet masterworks. The Dover Quartet catapulted to international acclaim after taking first prize at the 2013 Banff International String Quartet Competition, and was recently awarded the Cleveland Quartet Award and the Lincoln Center Emerging Artists Award.

Beethoven – String Quartet op. 18, no. 4
Beethoven – String Quartet op. 59, no. 3, “Razumovsky”
Beethoven – String Quartet op. 130, ”Grosse Fugue”

The Dover Quartet: Joel Link, Bryan Lee, violins; Milena Pajaro-Van de Stadt, viola; Camden Shaw, cello
Darkness Visible: Walking the Boundaries Between Nations

Darkness Visible explores the boundaries between two nations historically and musically at odds: England and France.

- Debussy – Sonata for Cello and Piano
- Ades – Darkness Visible for Solo Piano
- Dutilleux – Sonatine for Flute and Piano
- Britten – Suite for Violin and Piano
- Ravel – Piano Trio

Tara Helen O’Connor, flute; Kristin Lee, violin; Jay Campbell, cello; Conor Hanick, Michael Mizrahi, pianos

Strings Attached: Intimate, Colorful, Evocative

Featuring some of the richest works in the string repertory, “Strings Attached” highlights four spectacularly unique combinations of stringed instruments.

- Dvorak – Terzetto for Two Violins and Viola
- Arensky – Quartet for Violin, Viola, and Two Cellos
- Martinu – Three Madrigals for Violin and Viola
- Brahms – String Sextet no. 2

Tessa Lark, Kristin Lee, Ani Kavafian, violins; Roberto Diaz, Yura Lee, violas; Ani Aznavoorian, David Requiro, cellos

Artist in Spotlight: Harpist Bridget Kibbey

The New York Times declares, “It seems as though Kibbey’s instrument had been waiting for all its life to explore with the gorgeous colors and energetic figures she was getting from it.” Collaborating with The Sebastians, a renowned early music ensemble, Bridget Kibbey curates a special evening of music by Johann Sebastian Bach, reinvented for the harp.

Bridget Kibbey, harp; The Sebastians, baroque ensemble
**Without Words: The Best of Opera, Without Words**

For centuries, chamber music has taken much inspiration from the drama and grandeur of opera. “Without Words” features music composed for and inspired by operatic masterworks.

- Mozart – Kegelstatt for Clarinet, Viola, and Piano
- Wagner – Isolde’s Liebestod for Solo Piano (arr. Liszt)
- Verdi – String Quartet
- Grainger – Fantasy on Gershwin’s *Porgy and Bess* for Two Pianos
- Schiff – Divertimento from *Gimpel the Fool* for Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Piano

Mihai Marica, *cello*; Michael Brown, Julio Elizalde, *pianos*

**Back to Bach: It All Ends Right Where It Started**

The legacy of Johann Sebastian Bach has shaped the course Western music time and time again. “Back to Bach” examines the Baroque master’s profound influence through the lens of what came after his death two and a half centuries ago.

- Norgard – The Well-Tempered Percussion
- Bach – Double from Partita no. 1 for Solo Violin
- Francis – Sillage for Violin and Piano
- Bach/Busoni – Chaconne for Solo Piano
- Koppel – Toccata for Vibraphone and Marimba

Ian Rosenbaum, Christopher Froh, *percussion*

**TICKET DETAILS**

Seattle tickets: $45, includes one (1) drink
Tacoma and Olympia tickets: $43 premium seating, $28 general seating, $10 students

*Tickets can be ordered online at www.emeraldcitymusic.org/tickets, or by calling (206) 250-5510.*
ABOUT KRISTIN LEE, CO-FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Violinist Kristin Lee, winner of a 2015 Avery Fisher Career grant, enjoys a vibrant career as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. Her recent engagements include recitals in New York’s Merkin Concert Hall and Washington DC’s Phillips Collection, and appearances with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony, and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. As a recitalist, she has performed at Ravinia's Rising Stars Series, the Salon de Virtuosi at Steinway Hall, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Louvre in Paris, the Kumho Art Gallery in her native Seoul, and throughout northern Italy. A winner of Juilliard’s Concerto Competition and the Aspen Music Festival’s Violin Competition, she was a top prize winner of the 2012 Naumburg Competition, Astral Artists Auditions in 2010, and Italy's Premio di Trieste Competition in 2011. As a chamber musician, she has made appearances at the Ravinia Festival, Music@Menlo, La Jolla, Sarasota, El Sistema in Caracas, and Festicamara de Medellin. Ms. Lee earned a master’s degree from The Juilliard School in 2010 under Itzhak Perlman and Donald Weilerstein and served as an assistant teacher in Mr. Perlman's studio. She is a former member of CMS Two and on the faculty at the Aaron Copland School of Music in Queens College. Kristin Lee is the Artistic Director of Emerald City Music.

View her full biography at: www.violinistkristinlee.com

ABOUT ANDREW GOLDSTEIN, CO-FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
As the Artistic Administrator for cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han, Andrew Goldstein worked on such projects as Music@Menlo Chamber Music Festival and Institute - internationally renowned for its high standard of artistic excellence - and Chamber Music Today in Seoul South Korea. He also managed two classical music record labels: ArtistLed and Music@Menlo LIVE. Andrew has served an array of other arts institutions, including Seattle Opera, The New 42nd Street Studios, Waterbury Symphony, and others. He lives in Seattle with his wife, Eryn, and daughter, Hazel.

Andrew can be contacted by email at andrew@emeraldcitymusic.org
A NOTE FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR KRISTIN LEE

“As a traveling violinist, there is nothing more gratifying than seeing the reactions of the audience being so moved by the music. Practicing, traveling, and constant time zone changes that lead to lack of sleep can get really exhausting, but the moment I get on that stage and feel the energy of the audience’s excitement, all that is left in me is pure joy and satisfaction. It’s really interesting to meet these audience members in person as well. I have witnessed numerous times how they were able to feel the emotions they haven’t felt in years, and feeling perfectly safe and comfortable to be in that vulnerable state.

Music clearly has the power to heal and bring people together, and this is the reason why I feel so passionate about bringing Emerald City Music to the Pacific Northwest. Andrew Goldstein (Executive Director and co-founder) and I specifically chose chamber music because chamber music is the most intimate form of music that one can experience as an audience member. Often times, people feel separated and detached from what is going on stage, but chamber music allows the audience to experience a concert as if they are part of the performance. One can examine the interaction between the musicians, and hear different melodies coming in and out from one instrument to another. It always keeps the audience stimulated and excited to see what is coming up next. I can’t be happier to share this power of music, and I can’t wait to see what great benefits it will bring to the communities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia.”

EMERALD CITY MUSIC: SUMMARY FACTS & FIGURES

In our inaugural season:

- Seven concerts in Seattle, two in Tacoma, and five in Olympia, WA.

- Total annual performance attendance expected to reach 4,000.

- The $321,000 annual budget supports 14 concerts per year in addition to at least 20 outreach events.

- 45 artists will visit the region from around the world, including New York City, Houston, Boston, Seoul, Los Angeles, and London. Of the visiting artists, 30 of them will be making their debut in Western Washington.

- Tickets go on sale April 1, 2016.
ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook (facebook.com/emeraldcitymusic)

Twitter (twitter.com/emeraldcitymusic)

Instagram (instagram.com/emeraldcitymusic)

Website (www.emeraldcitymusic.org)

PRESS INQUIRIES

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Emerald City Music is a IRS 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and is registered with the Washington State Charities Program.