

# Trio Gaia

*Resident Ensemble in the  
NEC Professional Piano Trio program*

Andrew Barnwell, piano  
Grant Houston, violin  
Yi-Mei Templeman, cello

Sunday, March 10, 2024  
8:00 p.m.  
NEC's Jordan Hall

## PROGRAM

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**Franz Joseph Haydn**  
(1732–1809)

from **Piano Trio in A Major, Hob. XV:18**  
I. Allegro moderato

**Gabriela Lena Frank**  
(b. 1972)

from *Four Folk Songs*  
II. Children's Dance

**Antonín Dvořák**  
(1841–1904)

from **Piano Trio No. 3 in F Minor**  
III. Andante con moto

**Samuel Coleridge-Taylor**  
(1875–1912)

from *Five Negro Melodies*  
IV. They Will Not Lend Me a Child

**Johannes Brahms**  
(1833–1897)

from **Piano Trio No. 2 in C Major, op. 87**  
I. Allegro

*Intermission*

**Clara Schumann**  
(1819–1896)

**Piano Trio in G Minor, op. 17**  
Allegro moderato  
Scherzo – Trio  
Andante  
Allegretto

*Thank you, as always, to our coach and mentor  
Vivian Weilerstein.*

*Thank you, also,  
to Nick Kitchen and Merry Peckham  
for guiding us this year.*

*Thank you to our  
parents, families, and friends  
for their endless support along the way.*

*We've had a meaningful and memorable time in the program  
and have grown so much as both a trio and as individuals.  
NEC has been our home for many, many years,  
and we wouldn't trade this experience for anything.*

**Trio Gaia**, New England Conservatory's graduate piano trio in residence, formed in 2018 and is dedicated to offering audiences dynamic, personally relevant experiences inside and outside the concert hall. Recently, the trio won first prize at the 2022 WDAV Young Chamber Musicians Competition, as well as prizes in the 2022 Premio Trio di Trieste International Music Competition, 2021 Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition, and the 2019 Plowman National Chamber Music Competition.

Recent seasons have included appearances on stages nationally and internationally, including recitals for the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts, Davidson College Concert Series, and Core Memory Music, as well as performances in Osaka, Japan as part of the Osaka International Chamber Music Competition. The trio has also been presented in recitals in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Virginia, and Panama City, Panama, with summer appearances at the Chamber Music Workshop of the Perlman Music Program and Yale University's Norfolk Chamber Music Festival. In the 23/24 season, Trio Gaia debuts at the Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, the Harvard Musical Association, the Shouse Institute of the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, and has been awarded a Creative Residency at the Perlman Music Program to bring new life to its integrative programming of works beyond the classical piano trio canon. In 2020, during the onset of the pandemic, Trio Gaia gave virtual performances for Music for Food, Massachusetts Peace Action, NEC's Black Student Union, and Opus Illuminate, a series dedicated to music by composers underrepresented in classical music. In their programming, the trio is equally passionate about reviving standard works and championing new works, while also experimenting with original arrangements and compositions.

Dedicated to sharing classical music in the community, Trio Gaia is sought-after

for its educational programming for students, seniors, and everyone in between. The trio has crafted weeklong residencies for both the Panama Jazz Festival and the Virginia Arts Festival in support of its mission to invite students into the experience of creating chamber music. Previously, Trio Gaia served as Community Performance & Partnership fellows at NEC, and most recently they were invited to perform and teach at PRIZM International Music Festival in Tennessee.

Over the years, the trio's mentors have included Vivian Hornik Weilerstein, Don Weilerstein, Nick Kitchen, Kim Kashkashian, Yeesun Kim, Ayano Ninomiya, Merry Peckham, Max Levinson, Laurence Lesser, Itzhak Perlman, and members of the Brentano Quartet and Horszowski Trio.

Under the direction of Vivian Hornik Weilerstein, NEC's **Professional Piano Trio Program** is open to advanced ensembles who show the talent and commitment necessary to pursue a concert career. One trio is in residence at a time, typically for a period of two years.

The program offers intensive training and coaching for exceptional piano trios. Highlights include three hours of ensemble coaching per week, weekly individual studio instruction from NEC strings and piano faculty, daily group rehearsals, and training in all aspects of musicianship and career development. Piano trios perform an annual recital in world-renowned Jordan Hall and give performances in venues such as the Kennedy Center, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and the Rhinebeck Chamber Music Society.

Previous graduates of the program include Trio Cleonice, The New Trio, Moët Trio, Trio Cavatina, Tel-Aviv Trio, the Tal Trio, and the Merz Trio.

Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall,  
and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.

Assistive listening devices are available for all Jordan Hall concerts;  
contact the head usher or house manager on duty or inquire at the Coat Room.

Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

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