



CLARE COLLEGE CHAPEL

Viola and Piano Recital

Sunday 9 June 2024 at 5.25 p.m.

Rachel Yonan | viola
Cordelia Williams (Clare 2006) | piano

Kiss on Wood

James MacMillan (1959–)

Sonata for Arpeggione and Piano in a, D. 821

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

- i. Allegro Moderato
- ii. Adagio
- iii. Allegretto

Rachel Yonan, recognized for her expressive playing and elegant style, is a violist who enjoys a rich and varied career as recitalist, artistic director, commentator and champion of chamber music. She has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in concert halls across the United States, England, Switzerland, Italy, Austria and China; and on National Public Radio and Canadian Public Radio.

A lover of chamber music, Rachel co-founded the Marinus Ensemble with her brother, cellist Joseph Kuipers. Praised by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* as “perfectly balanced”, Marinus is a passionate group of artists, dedicated to engaging audiences through interactive performance of great music. They have performed for such series as the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Curtis Presents, and WRTI *Performance Studio*. Integrating her interest in music and philosophy, Rachel is a Visiting Scholar at Jesus College, University of Cambridge where her scholarship focuses on the role of music in personal formation and flourishing. She received funding for this project through Duke University as the inaugural *McDonald Agape Fellow in Theology and Music*. Beyond her own innovative work with Marinus, Rachel has been invited to perform at prestigious festivals such as the Marlboro Music Festival, Open Chamber Music Prussia Cove, Festival Mozaic and Taos Music Festival. Ms. Yonan has collaborated with Itzhak Perlman, Roberto Díaz, Joseph Silverstein, James Dunham and Robert Levin; joined the Dover and Escher Quartets for chamber concerts; and worked extensively with Pamela Frank, Peter Wiley and Edgar Meyer.

While Ms. Yonan has had the honor of performing around the world in major concert venues such as Carnegie Hall, Verizon Hall and King’s College Chapel Cambridge, she is equally at home engaging audiences in more intimate venues through her work with Marinus. She successfully launched a new series—Marinus in the Vineyard—that offers immersive and inviting concert experiences in scenic Virginia wineries. Rachel is Artistic Director of Marinus, and has taught viola performance and chamber music at Duke University. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and Rice University. Rachel plays a Gabrielle Kundert viola modeled on a Camillo Camilli viola from 1739.

Cordelia Williams is a Polish-Welsh-English pianist, recognised for the poetry and conviction of her playing and the depth of her interpretations. She has performed all over the world, including concertos with the English Chamber Orchestra (in Mexico City), City of Birmingham Symphony

Orchestra and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Williams has become particularly known for her remarkable understanding of the music of Schubert and Schumann. Her 2021 album *Nightlight* received rave reviews across the board and was awarded Critics' Choice by *International Piano* and Recording of the Year by *MusicWeb International*. 2023's *Cascade* is her fifth album: "A profound aesthetic understanding conveyed through an interpretative technique of the highest order, which are rarely encountered these days." (*Musical Opinion*)

Cordelia Williams enjoys introducing the music she plays, as well as using imaginative programming and innovative collaboration across art forms. Alongside her performing career she gained a First in Theology from Clare College, Cambridge. She is currently developing two unique cross-discipline collaborations for 2025 as well as a large-scale project focusing on joy and wildness in music; she also enjoys a duo partnership with violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen.

In 2021 she spent time performing, teaching and filming in Kenya. Her documentary-film *On Being a Pianist in Kenya* explores the challenges facing young aspiring classical musicians in Nairobi; one of the pianists she mentors has since taken up a scholarship at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Cordelia can be found on YouTube at youtube.com/CordeliaWilliams where she shares practice insights and videos about performing life.

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