1047 Amsterdam Ave. at 112th Street New York, NY 10025 T (212) 316-7490 stjohndivine.org

RELEASE

For further information please call

Julie Falvo, Rubenstein Communications (212) 843-9341 / <u>jfalvo@rubenstein.com</u>

Isadora Wilkenfeld, Cathedral of St. John the Divine (212) 316-7468 / iwilkenfeld@stjohndivine.org

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS A PERFORMANCE BY ASSOCIATE ORGANIST DANIEL FICARRI WITH GUEST ARTIST VIOLINIST STELLA CHEN



The Cathedral of St. John the Divine presents its first live Great Music in a Great Space concert of 2022 with a performance by Associate Organist Daniel Ficarri and guest artist violinist Stella Chen, on Tuesday, March 1 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047

Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street).

Named one of the top "20 under 30" organists by *The Diapason* magazine, Daniel Ficarri's March 1 concert will illustrate not only his mastery of the instrument, but also his skill as a seasoned composer, with the world premiere of his own *Gothic Hymn* for organ and violin, a musical reflection on the architectural and acoustical features of the Cathedral. The program will also include works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Léon Boëllmann, Olivier Messiaen, and Arvo Pärt.

All visitors to the Cathedral are required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination and wear a mask for entry. For tickets and more information, <u>visit the Cathedral's website</u>.

For more details and information on all the Cathedral's programs and services, visit stjohndivine.org.

PROGRAM

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992) Joie et clarté des Corps Glorieux from *Les Corps Glorieux*

Daniel Ficarri (b. 1996) Prelude and Fugue in A-flat Major

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897) *Prière à Notre-Dame from Suite Gothique, Op. 25

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) Prelude and Fugue in D Minor ("Fiddle"), BWV 539

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935) *Fratres

Daniel Ficarri (b. 1996) *Gothic Hymn – World Premiere

Olivier Messiaen Apparition de l'église éternelle

Olivier Messiaen

*Louange à l'Immortalité de Jésus from *Quatuor pour la fin du temps*

About the Artists

American violinist **Stella Chen** garnered worldwide attention with her first-prize win at the 2019 Queen Elizabeth International Violin Competition, followed by the 2020 Avery Fisher Career Grant and 2020 Lincoln Center Emerging Artist Award.

Following debuts with the Chicago Symphony and Chamber Orchestra of Europe in summer 2021, her auspicious 2021-22 season sees her recital debut at Carnegie Hall, concerto debuts at the Vienna Musikverein and Berlin Philharmonie, and appearances throughout Europe, Asia, and North America. In addition to performances with the New York Philharmonic, Kremerata Baltica, German State Philharmonic, and New Japan Philharmonic she appears frequently with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center both in New York and on tour.

Stella's most recent engagements include appearances with the Minnesota Orchestra, Belgian National Orchestra, Brussels Philharmonic and the Luxembourg Philharmonic and at the Phillips Collection in Washington, DC, Salzburg Mozarteum, Ravinia, and Kronberg Academy Festivals.

^{*}Stella Chen, violin

Stella has appeared as a chamber musician in festivals including the Perlman Music Program, Music@Menlo, Bridgehampton, Rockport, and Sarasota. Chamber music partners include Itzhak Perlman, Donald Weilerstein, Matthew Lipman, Robert Levin, and more.

She is the first recipient of the Robert Levin Award from Harvard University, the top prize winner of the Tibor Varga International Violin Competition and youngest-ever prize winner of the Menuhin Competition. Stella plays on the 1700 ex-Petri Stradivarius, on generous loan from Dr. Ryuji Ueno and Rare Violins In Consortium, Artists and Benefactors Collaborative.

Stella received her doctorate from the Juilliard School, where she serves as a teaching assistant to her longtime mentor, Li Lin. Her friendship with Danny is one of her most treasured gifts from their time at Juilliard!

Named one of the top "20 under 30" organists by *The Diapason* magazine, **Daniel Ficarri** (b. 1996) is Associate Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, NYC and a published composer of organ, choral, and chamber music.

A dynamic concert artist, Daniel has made appearances in Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall under the batons of Marin Alsop, Itzhak Perlman, David Robertson, and James Gaffigan; and he has performed in many of the country's great houses of worship, including St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC and Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, CA. *The New York Times* has featured Ficarri in the "Week's 8 Best Classical Music Moments," and WQXR-FM presented him as part of the 2014 Bach Organ Marathon. Daniel studied the organ with Paul Jacobs at The Juilliard School, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees.

A composer of exceeding detail and imagination, Ficarri has been commissioned by organizations from the Madison Symphony Orchestra to the British magazine *Choir & Organ*. Much of his music is published by E. C. Schirmer and MorningStar, including multi-movement works for solo organ and unaccompanied choral motets. Daniel studied composition privately with Rachel Laurin.

About Great Music in a Great Space

Revived in 2011, Great Music in a Great Space reprises the legendary concert series first held at the Cathedral in the 1980s. Great Music in a Great Space presents choral, orchestral, and instrumental music, in the magnificent, deeply spiritual setting of the world's largest Gothic cathedral. The beloved holiday traditions of the Christmas Concert and New Year's Eve Concert for Peace are an integral part of our concert series. Joined by Rose of the Compass, Musica Sacra, and the Oratorio Society of New York, the Cathedral Choirs, Orchestra, and a remarkable artistic team of organists and soloists bring the beloved space of the Cathedral to life with this transcendent music.

About The Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and

leadership.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cathedral has responded to changing needs in the local community and across the city and state. People from many faiths and communities worship together in daily services held online and in person; the soup kitchen serves roughly 50,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs to safely provide resources and aid to the hardest-hit New Yorkers; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Advancing the Community of Tomorrow, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.

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