



presents

Spring
Natalie Raney, *cello*

Friday, June 5, 2020 at 8 PM
Old First Church
1751 Sacramento St. at Van Ness Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94109
(415) 474-1608 www.oldfirstconcerts.org

ABOUT OLD FIRST CONCERTS

- Great venue for music with beautiful acoustics and amazing Steinway concert grand piano.
- Primarily local emerging and mid-career professional musicians presenting innovative programs.
- Every concert offers new insights and virtuosic performances.
- Complimentary refreshments served at intermission or after the concert.
- An independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization devoted to presenting music at affordable prices, especially for low-income seniors and students.
- Solo, chamber music, and world music concerts year-round since 1970.

DONATING TO OLD FIRST CONCERTS

Ticket sales provide about 38 percent of our operating revenue each year. In addition, we rely on support from private foundations and Grants for the Arts from the city of San Francisco. Our generous individual donors complete the picture. We invite you to join us in our mission to connect audiences and local musicians and build up the classical music and world music scene in San Francisco. Donations are tax-deductible and donating on our website is easy and secure: www.oldfirstconcerts.org/give/, or checks can be mailed to:

Old First Concerts, 1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.
Thank you!

COVID-19 RESPONSE: RETURNING TO THE MUSIC

Old First Concerts is committed to the health and safety of our audiences, performers and staff. We hope to resume concerts soon and have implemented a number of policies and procedures to help us reach that goal, which you can read about on our website.

In the meantime, know that all tickets are fully guaranteed—so if we have to cancel or postpone an event that you’ve purchased a ticket to, you can choose to use the ticket for any concert between now and June 1, 2021, or you can be fully refunded.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Following us on **Facebook** is a great way to keep informed about the latest concert information. While you are there, don’t forget to **share** events with your friends and hit the “Like” button liberally. [facebook.com/oldfirstconcerts/](https://www.facebook.com/oldfirstconcerts/)

You can also find us on **Instagram** [@oldfirstconcerts](https://www.instagram.com/oldfirstconcerts) with information about upcoming events plus photos and videos from our concerts.

PROGRAM

Dorothy Chang (b. 1970)

Bloom

I. Emerging

Kaija Saariaho (b. 1952)

Sept Papillons (Seven Butterflies)

Papillon I: Dolce, leggiero, libero

Papillon II: Leggiero, molto espressivo

Papillon III: Calmo, con tristezza

Papillon IV: Dolce, tranquillo

Papillon V: Lento, misterioso

Papillon VI: Sempre poco nervoso, senza tempo

Papillon VII: Molto espressivo, energico

INTERMISSION

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Cello Suite No. 1 in G major, BWV 1007

Prélude

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande

Menuets I & II

Gigue

Pablo Casals (1876–1973)

Song of the Birds

with David Gonzales, *guitar*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Natalie Raney fell in love with the cello when she was nine years old, after hearing her coolest, childhood role model play it in the house next door. Her journey has led her across the country and landed her in San Francisco where she resides as a sought-after chamber musician, soloist, and teacher. Recognized for her bold and adventurous playing, she has established herself as an immensely versatile performer.

As a chamber musician, she has performed with world-renowned musicians such as Kim Kashkashian, Menahem Pressler, Norman Fischer, Geoff Nuttall, Bonnie Hampton, Roberto Diaz, Ian Swensen, Jodi Levitz, Paul Hersh, and the Arianna String Quartet. She worked closely with composer, Joan Tower, after being invited by the Muir Quartet to participate in the Emerging Quartets and Composers Program. While studying at San Francisco Conservatory of Music, she was invited to perform at the Kennedy Center and was also a finalist for the Coleman Chamber Music Competition. She has studied chamber music under members of the Tokyo, Pacifica, Brentano, Vermeer, Muir, Concord, and Arianna String Quartets.

Natalie was the founding cellist of Curium, a piano trio that highlights works by women composers. Within Curium's first year of formation, they were winners of the Barbara Fritz Chamber Award, were featured on the International Showcase Concert for the St. Lawrence String Quartet Seminar, and performed over a dozen throughout the Bay Area. Additionally, Natalie performs as a core member of One Found Sound, a conductorless, democratically run chamber orchestra.

Passionate about teaching, Natalie is currently a faculty member of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College, where she coaches chamber music ensembles. She has coached chamber music to young musicians through the Lyceum Music Festival in Utah and Summer Music West in San Francisco. In addition to her work as a chamber coach, Natalie maintains a private studio in San Francisco, California.

Natalie graduated from the San Francisco Conservatory receiving an Artist Certificate in Chamber Music studying with Jean-Michel Fonteneau. She received her Master of Music degree at Boston University, mentored by Marc Johnson, former cellist of the Vermeer Quartet and received a Bachelor of Music studying with Kurt Baldwin and the Arianna Quartet at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. www.natalieraneycello.com

With a career spanning 15 years, versatile guitarist **David Gonzales** has appeared across the U.S. as a chamber musician, soloist, and educator. As co-founder of the ground-breaking electric guitar ensemble, Ignition Duo and a former member of the renowned San Francisco Guitar Quartet, David has worked closely with many acclaimed composers to expand the repertoire for both classical and electric guitar. As an award-winning soloist, David performs music spanning from the renaissance to modern periods. In addition to his broad performing experience, David is also passionate about nurturing a future generation of creative musical artists through his work as a teacher, having partnered with numerous music schools in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond.

As a co-founder of Ignition Duo, David has demonstrated a commitment to exploring new sonic territory in the realm of classical music. Ignition Duo has premiered over two dozen new chamber works, working closely with composers to write music for their unique instrumentation: two electric guitars. Ignition Duo has performed at the Spoleto festival, where it was said they “grooved, jammed, and shredded with Mozartian precision.” (*The Post and Courier*, Charleston). Additionally, Ignition Duo has performed at the Switchboard music festival, and has collaborated on commissioning projects with the composition department at UC Santa Barbara and the San Francisco-based Guerilla Composers Guild. Ignition Duo received a grant from the San Francisco friends of Chamber Music to record their debut album, *Ablaze Amidst the Horns*, released in 2015.

As a member of the San Francisco Guitar Quartet, SFGQ, David has toured across California, the Midwest and the South. SFGQ have been featured artists at the University of Louisville Guitar Festival, the Dayton Guitar Society, and the Knoxville guitar society, among others. As a member of the SFGQ, David helped spearhead new commissions for the group from leading young California composers.

As a first prize winner at the Society of American Musicians solo guitar competition, David has performed internationally at the Domaine Forget festival in Quebec, as well the Incontri Chittarristici in Gargnano, Italy. He has been a featured guest for the Chicago, and Ventura classical guitar societies, and has played concerts throughout California and New Mexico, his home state. David holds degrees from Northwestern University and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and has studied with

many of the world's foremost classical guitarists, including Oscar Ghiglia, Roland Dyens, and David Russell. His primary teachers include Sergio Assad, Anne Waller, and Mickey Jones.

As an educator, David has mentored a young generation of musicians in California, New Mexico and Colorado. He started his teaching career as a conductor, ensemble coach and private guitar teacher at the Albuquerque Academy in New Mexico. David has gone on to teach guitar ensemble for underfunded school districts through the Music Matters program in Solano County, CA, has volunteered for the Conservatory in the Schools program, and has since given masterclasses at schools and universities throughout the U.S., including University of Louisville, Eastern Kentucky University, and the Denver School of the Arts, among others. David currently teaches privately in San Francisco. www.davidgonzalesguitar.com

COMING UP AT OLD FIRST CONCERTS

Friday, June 26 at 8 pm

Cornelius Boots, *solo shakuhachi and taimu*

A dynamic solo presentation from a master of jinashi Zen bamboo flutes ranging from virtuosic and energetic to meditative and subtle.

Friday, July 17 at 8 pm

Patrick Galvin, *violin*

Recital including works for solo violin by Bach, Ysaÿe, a premiere by Stefan Cwik, and more.

Friday, July 24 at 8 pm

L'Arc Trio—Maria van der Sloot, *violin*; **Christine Lee**, *cello*;

Jung-eun Kim, *piano*

Prize-winning young ensemble's debut on our series, featuring a World Premiere by the eclectic Canadian composer Vivian Fung and two trios by Beethoven.

Sunday, July 26 at 4 pm

Central Star—Paula Dreyer, *piano*

Premiere performance of the complete cycle of works called *Central Star*, in which Paula tells a personal, yet universal story about the powers of imagination, intuition, and creative expression during challenging times of uncertainty, as well as offering a therapeutic medium during everyday life.

Friday, August 7 at 8 pm

Bow & Mallet Quintet

Jennifer Kloetzel, *cello*; **Jack van Geem**, *vibraphone*; **Brian Clarke**, *piano*; **Rob Wright**, *bass*; **Brian Simpson**, *drums*

Ballads from the American Songbook and upbeat jazz tunes.

Sunday, August 9 at 4 pm

The Refuse Project—Vanessa Langer, *soprano*, with guests including **Sarah Cahill**, *piano*, and others

An ambitious program of virtuosic contemporary vocal works by George Crumb, David Coll, Henry Cowell, and Olivier Messiaen.

Tickets and more information at oldfirstconcerts.org

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Joan B. O'Connor	and Club Glee	Friends of Old First Concerts
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Old First Concerts' piano is a New York Steinway D model, circa 1980, with Hamburg action. It was donated by The Stanley Ibler Fund, and is maintained by David Love Piano Service and Restoration.