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## Lark Chamber Artists

As an outgrowth of the world-renowned Lark Quartet, Lark Chamber Artists (LCA) is a uniquely structured ensemble featuring some of today's most active performers who have come together to present a broad range of musical styles, embracing the traditional favorites of the chamber music repertoire as well as adventuresome commissions and collaborations for a new standard in innovative programming. LCA is comprised of a core group of musicians representing strings, piano, woodwinds and percussion and features programs scored for a wide variety of instrumental combinations ranging from soloist to small chamber orchestra and encompassing repertoire from the Baroque to the present. In the spirit of the Lark Quartet, the LCA values its role in the development of future chamber music audiences through outreach concerts and makes use of the rich array of educational programs developed by the Lark during its long history.

Exciting new projects are putting the Lark at the forefront of current musical activity and include their new, highly acclaimed CD release on Endeavor Classics entitled, "Klap Ur Handz," featuring a commission by Daniel Bernard Roumain ("DBR") whose fusion of classical elements with jazz and hip-hop is igniting a fire around the country and appeals to audiences young and old. In a ground-breaking new venture, the Lark is co-creating a new genre in an adventurous collaboration with the celebrated Ethos Percussion Group in which they commission various composers (most recently Giovanni Sollima) for original works as well as arrangements of rock, folk and traditional World Music for a new twist on the traditional octet.

The Lark has always been very active in commissioning and premiering new music. Many of these works have become mainstays of the chamber music repertoire and include: Qt. No. 1 Musica celestis and Qt. No.2 Musica instrumentalis (1997 Pulitzer Prize) by Aaron Jay Kernis, Qt. No.2 In memoriam and Piano Qunitet No.2, by Peter Schickele, "A Poet's Dream, by Jennifer Higdon, Early That Summer, by Julia Wolfe and Viaggio in Italia, by Giovanni Sollima. In addition, The Lark has commissioned 2004 Pulitzer winner Paul Moravec, hailed by critics as one of the leading "New Tonalists," to write a work for piano and strings. One of the youngest composers ever to win a Pulitzer, Moravec will complete his commission for the Larks in 2009, when they will be joined by renowned pianist Jeremy Denk for the premiere.

Over the course of its long history, (the ensemble was formed in 1985), the Lark has earned numerous international awards, including the Naumburg and Shostakovich Prizes; commissioned leading American composers such as Aaron Jay Kernis who wrote his Pulitzer winning "Musica Instrumentalis" for them, Peter Schickele, Julia Wolfe, and Jennifer Higdon; and collaborated with artists as varied as dancer-choreographer Bill T. Jones, Edgar Meyer, and Gary Graffman. The quartet has held the position of ensemble-in-residence at Columbia University's Miller Theatre, Dartmouth College, and Florida State and Ohio Universities.

The Lark is based in New York City and serves as Ensemble in Residence at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

### Core Artists

[Deborah Buck, Violin](#)

[Harumi Rhodes, Violin](#)

[Kathryn Lockwood, Viola](#)

[Astrid Schween, Cello](#)

[Todd Palmer, Clarinet](#)

[Yousif Sheronick, Percussion](#)

Special Guest Artists

Kenneth Cooper, *Harpshichord / Fortepiano* \*

Gary Graffman, *Piano*

Jeremy Denk, *Piano*

Ethos Percussion Group

Guest Artists/Collaborators

Maria Bachmann, *Violin*

Marjorie Bagley, *Violin* \*

Eva Burmeister, *Violin*

Volkan Orhon, *Bass*

Pedja Muzijevic, *Piano*

Gary Hammond, *Piano*