

Stephen Prina
String Quartet for Six Players
Artist and performer bios

Stephen Prina is an artist, musician, and composer who was born in 1954 in Galesburg, Illinois, and is based in Los Angeles, California. His solo exhibitions include *English for Foreigners*, Museo Tamayo, Mexico City (2020) and Museo Madre, Naples (2017); *galesburg, illinois+*, Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, St. Gallen (2015); *As He Remembered It*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles (2013) and Secession, Vienna (2011); *He was but a bad translation.*, Kölnischer Kunstverein (2011); *Stephen Prina: Modern Movie Pop*, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (2010); *The Second Sentence of Everything I Read Is You*, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden and Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo (CAAC), Seville (both 2008); *To the People of Frankfurt am Main: At Least Three Types of Inaccessibility*, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main (2000); and *It was the best he could do at the moment*, Museum Boijmans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam (1992). Group exhibitions include the 2008 Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; *Departures: 11 Artists at the Getty*, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles (2000); *Allegories of Modernism: Contemporary Drawing*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York (1992); *documenta IX*, Kassel (1992); the 51st Carnegie International, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (1991); *Aperto*, Venice Biennale (1990); *A Forest of Signs: Art in the Crisis of Representation*, MOCA, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (1989); and the 74th American Exhibition, The Art Institute of Chicago (1982).

Either/Or (EO) is a flexible chamber ensemble based in New York City with a repertoire drawn from a wide spectrum of experimental traditions. Winner of the 2015 CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, EO has presented such inclusive concert experiences as surveys of composers like Tālib-Rāsūl Hākīm, Ana-Maria Avram, Chiyoko Szlavnic, and Anthony Braxton; explorations of graphic score approaches by artists like Mendi+Keith Obadike, Joanna Ward, and Raven Chacon; and carefully constructed sets of works with titles such as *Perspectives and Disclosures* and *Time | Again*. EO's directors, Richard Carrick and Chris McIntyre, draw on a broad collective of 10 regular soloists and various guests to realize the specific requirements of each project. Since forming in 2004 the group has premiered more than 300 works (as well as dozens of student compositions), toured throughout the US and Sweden, and recorded for labels such as New Focus, New World Records, Starkland, and Sterling Classics.

Christopher McIntyre is a Brooklyn-based trombonist, curator, composer, band leader, and educator. Known for his involvement in Julius Eastman's music, McIntyre serves as director of TILT Brass, which he cofounded in 2003, and as curator and trombonist for Either/Or Ensemble. As a player, composer, and music director, he specializes in ensemble work that melds improvisatory and interpretive material. He regularly performs in groups such as TILT, Either/Or, SEM and Talea ensembles, and American Composers Orchestra (ACO), among many others. McIntyre leads an active career as an independent concert programmer in New York (at the Kitchen, MATA Festival, Ne(x) works, and ISSUE Project Room) and he currently teaches at Mannes School of Music at the New School and in ACO's Teaching Artist program.

Violinist/violist, composer, and visual artist **Leah Asher** is an avid performer of contemporary music and creator of new artistic works. Asher is the executive director and violinist of the Rhythm Method string quartet and co-creator of *MEANINGLESS WORK* with Nicolee Kuester. Asher regularly performs with such New York-based ensembles as International Contemporary Ensemble, Talea Ensemble, and S.E.M. Ensemble. She formerly served as solo violist of NOSO Sinfonietta and co-principal viola of the Arctic Philharmonic. As a composer, she has been commissioned by ensembles including andPlay, Chartreuse, Periapais, NorthArc Percussion Group, the Great Learning Orchestra, and Ensemble Hybrid. Her recent releases include the solo album *Retreat into Afters* and the Rhythm Method's album *Pastorale*. Asher joined the faculty of Manhattan School of Music in 2022.

Violinist **Lauren Cauley**, a leading figure in New York's avant-garde music scene, is known for genre-defying performances that push the boundaries of her instrument. Praised as a "mainstay of the local new music scene" (*The New York Times*) and for her "fierce precision" (Cleveland Classical), Cauley has collaborated with renowned artists such as Chance the Rapper, Sigur Rós, George Lewis, Steve Reich, Cécile McLorin Salvant, Wadada Leo Smith, and Saul Williams. Her international career spans prestigious festivals like Venice Biennale, Newport Jazz, Beijing Modern Music Festival, and Lincoln Center Festival. She has premiered her own compositions at the Guggenheim Museum and performed as a guest artist at institutions like Princeton and Harvard universities, University of California, Berkeley, Shanghai Conservatory, and Eastman School of Music. A sought-after

recording artist, Cauley has appeared on Grammy Award-winning and Emmy Award-nominated projects. In 2026 she will appear as a soloist with the Columbus Symphony to premiere a new concerto by Jeffrey Mumford.

Pala Garcia is a critically acclaimed violinist whose artistic practice explores the variable nature of interpretation and memory. As a new music specialist, Garcia combines a love of adventurous sounds with questions about creative relationships and embodied knowledge. Garcia is an artist-in-residence at the University of Washington, was recently named a 2024 National Arts Club Artist Fellow, and was featured in the *Washington Post*'s "23 for '23: Performers and Composers to Watch." She is a cofounder of Longleash, an "expert trio" with an "immaculate, lustrous tone" (*Strad*). Internationally recognized for their artistic excellence and new music advocacy, their work has been supported by Chamber Music America, New Music USA, The Alice M. Ditson Fund of Columbia University, the Aaron Copland Fund for Music, and many others.

New York City-based violinist, violist, electric bassist, and composer **Josh Henderson** has led a multifaceted career that ranges from solo performances with orchestras to playing electric violin in rock bands. A player in the groups Contemporaneous and W4RP Trio, among others, he regularly performs all over the globe and loves playing music of all styles.

Kal Sugatski is a violist and imaginative creator known for their "soul satisfying, bold, political and creative" organizing and curating. Sugatski has performed with the New York Philharmonic, Pittsburgh Symphony, NYC Ballet, International Contemporary Ensemble, and ChamberQUEER, and with such recording artists as the National, Andrea Bocelli, and Stevie Wonder. Sugatski's season highlights include performances as principal violist of the Orchestra of St. Luke's, a collaboration with Paul Taylor Dance Company, touring with American Contemporary Music Ensemble, backpacking the entire Sierra Nevada range on the Pacific Crest Trail, and performing on Broadway. Sugatski was named Mainer of the Year for Vigorous Tenderness, their outdoor chamber music series in Maine centered around composers of color and other marginalized voices in classical music. They were a 2021-22 season musician with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and have been featured on NPR as both a soloist and a chamber musician.

John Popham is the assistant professor of cello at the University of Washington, a founding member of the piano trio Longleash, and codirector of the Loretto Project. His work explores the corporeality of string playing and engages diverse classical, historical, and experimental performance practices. Performance highlights include appearances at Monday Evening Concerts (Los Angeles), reMusik (St. Petersburg), Beijing Modern Music Festival (China), Open Music (Austria), Donaueschinger Musiktage (Germany), and the Contemporary Classical Music Festival (Peru). He is a recipient of the New Music USA Creator Fund, the CMA Classical Commissioning Grant, and the Music Academy of the West's Alumni Enterprise Award. He has recorded for the Tzadik, Carrier, New Focus, and Kairos labels.