



## THE CLIBURN

### 2019–2020 CLIBURN CONCERTS SINGLE TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Contact:

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**FORT WORTH, Texas, May 2, 2019**—Single tickets are now on sale for the **2019–2020 Cliburn Concerts** season, as well as the **2019–2020 Cliburn Sessions** season and **2020 Cliburn Festival: Beethoven at 250**. *Full schedule, ticket pricing, and box office information below, or [by clicking here](#).*

[Hi-res artist photos can be downloaded here.](#)

The Cliburn Concerts season is highlighted by a special Cliburn at the Bass event, **Beethoven at 250: The Piano Concertos**—one day, two concerts, five piano concertos. **Miguel Harth-Bedoya** will conduct the **Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra** for this kick off of the iconic composer's 250th birthday, with a dream line-up of soloists: **Till Fellner**, **David Fray**, **George Li**, **Jon Nakamatsu**, and **Joyce Yang**. Cliburn at the Kimbell brings the return of 2001 Cliburn Gold Medalist and Fort Worth favorite **Olga Kern**; a Texas debut for cellist **Camille Thomas** with pianist **Roman Rabinovitch**; distinctive, master pianist **Stephen Hough**; famed mezzo-soprano **Susan Graham** with pianist **Malcolm Martineau**; and the Cliburn Concerts debut of 2017 Cliburn Bronze Medalist **Daniel Hsu**. Cliburn at the Modern, which focuses on the work of living American composers, will spend an afternoon with the music of three of the seven women who have won the Pulitzer Prize for Music: **Julia Wolfe**, **Caroline Shaw**, and **Jennifer Higdon**; and will also welcome violinist **Jennifer Koh** and composer/pianist **Vijay Iyer** with their *Limitless* project.

Cliburn Sessions, a classically alternative music scene at Scat Jazz Lounge, presents the series debut of both **PUBLIQuartet**, the genre-bending string quartet, and **WindSync** + percussionist **Ivan Trevino**, as well as the return of **Conrad Tao**, but this time with his new eclectic piano trio, **JCT**.

For **2020 Cliburn Festival: Beethoven at 250**, the Cliburn joins a worldwide celebration of the 250th birthday of one of the world's greatest composers. Cliburn Festival artists-in-residence will come together to explore his remarkable oeuvre of solo, chamber, and vocal works in five concerts over four days.

### TICKET PRICING

Single tickets to **Cliburn at the Bass** are **\$20–\$90**. Tickets to **Cliburn at the Kimbell** range from **\$25–\$75**. **Cliburn at the Modern** single tickets are **\$25**. **Cliburn Sessions** tickets are **\$25** in advance and **\$30** at the door. **Cliburn Festival** tickets are **\$20–\$50**. Season subscription packages are still available for purchase. [For a full pricing list, click HERE.](#)

Single tickets and subscription packages can be purchased online at [Cliburn.org](http://Cliburn.org), by calling 817.212.4240, or in person at the Bass Hall Box Office (525 Commerce Street, Fort Worth, TX).

## **2019–2020 CLIBURN CONCERTS SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE**

*See below or click on artist name for bios and concert descriptions.*

Thursday & Friday, **OCTOBER 10 & 11**, 2019 | 7:30 p.m. | Kimbell Art Museum

**OLGA KERN**, [piano](#)

Thursday, **OCTOBER 24**, 2019 | 8:00 p.m. | Scat Jazz Lounge (Sessions)

**PUBLIQuartet**

Saturday, **NOVEMBER 16**, 2019 | 2:00 p.m. | Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth

**THE WOMEN OF THE PULITZER: THE MUSIC OF JULIA WOLFE, CAROLINE SHAW, JENNIFER HIGDON**

Thursday, **NOVEMBER 21**, 2019 | 7:30 p.m. | Kimbell Art Museum

**CAMILLE THOMAS**, [cello](#) + **ROMAN RABINOVICH**, [piano](#)

Saturday, **JANUARY 4**, 2020 | 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. | Bass Performance Hall

**BEETHOVEN AT 250: THE PIANO CONCERTOS** featuring: **TILL FELLNER, DAVID FRAY, GEORGE LI, JON NAKAMATSU, JOYCE YANG**, [piano](#) + **FORT WORTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** + **MIGUEL HARTH-BEDOYA**, conductor

Thursday, **JANUARY 23**, 2020 | 8:00 p.m. | Scat Jazz Lounge (Sessions)

**WINDSYNC** + **IVAN TREVINO**, [percussion](#)

Thursday & Friday, **JANUARY 30 & 31**, 2020 | 7:30 p.m. | Kimbell Art Museum

**STEPHEN HOUGH**, [piano](#)

Thursday, **FEBRUARY 13**, 2020 | 7:30 p.m. | Kimbell Art Museum

**SUSAN GRAHAM**, [mezzo-soprano](#) + **MALCOLM MARTINEAU**, [piano](#)

**FEBRUARY 27–MARCH 1**, 2020 | Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth

**2020 CLIBURN FESTIVAL: BEETHOVEN AT 250**

Saturday, **MARCH 14**, 2020 | 2:00 p.m. | Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth

**JENNIFER KOH**, [violin](#) + **VIJAY IYER**, [piano and composer](#)

Thursday, **MARCH 26**, 2020 | 7:30 p.m. | Kimbell Art Museum

**DANIEL HSU**, [piano](#) 2017 CLIBURN BRONZE MEDALIST

Thursday, **APRIL 16**, 2020 | 8:00 p.m. | Scat Jazz Lounge (Sessions)

**JCT TRIO**

## **DETAILED CONCERT INFORMATION**

## CLIBURN AT THE BASS

*The Cliburn at the Bass performance begins at 7:30 p.m. at Bass Performance Hall, located at 4<sup>th</sup> & Calhoun Streets in downtown Fort Worth's historic Sundance Square*

### **BEETHOVEN AT 250: THE PIANO CONCERTOS**

Saturday, January 4, 2020

*featuring Till Fellner, David Frey, George Li, Jon Nakamatsu, and Joyce Yang piano; with the Fort Worth Symphony and Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor*

To kick off 2020—which will be a yearlong, international celebration of the iconic composer's 250th birthday—this very special Cliburn at the Bass will present each of Beethoven's five piano concertos, in order. One day, two concerts, five spectacular pianists, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, and Miguel Harth-Bedoya, in the midst of his final season as the orchestra's music director. It's the definition of a do-not-miss event.

#### **JOYCE YANG** – 2005 CLIBURN SILVER (No. 1)

*"Her attention to detail and clarity is as impressive as her agility, balance and velocity." — The Washington Post*

She first came to international attention in 2005 when, at 19, she took home the Cliburn silver medal, along with special prizes for best chamber music and new work. Seoul-born **Joyce Yang** has since made over 1,000 concert appearances in the world's prestigious venues and with the New York, Los Angeles, and BBC Philharmonic Orchestras, the Deutsches-Orchester Berlin, and the Chicago, Philadelphia, Toronto, Sydney, and New Zealand Symphony Orchestras. She's also a Grammy-nominated recording artist praised for her "imaginative programming" and "beautifully atmospheric playing" (*Gramophone*).

#### **DAVID FRAY** (No. 2)

*"Exquisite, imaginative, and virtuosic... an extraordinary balance between the head and heart, between technical rigor and poetry." — The Epoch Times*

French pianist **David Fray**'s 2014 Cliburn Concerts debut was hailed as "revelatory...he didn't drop our interest for even a moment" (*Theater Jones*). A distinctive voice in classical music, his star has continued to rise with performances across Europe, North America, and Asia and collaborations with the world's leading orchestras. Additional recognition has come in the form of several prizes: Newcomer of the Year (*BBC Music magazine*), ECHO Klassik Prize for Instrumentalist of the Year (German Recording Academy), and Record of the Year (*The Times* in England and *Le Soir* in Belgium).

#### **JON NAKAMATSU** – 1997 CLIBURN GOLD (No. 3)

*"This American pianist has stunning technical control and can do anything at the piano he wants." — The New York Times*

Formerly a high school German teacher with no formal conservatory training, **Jon Nakamatsu** exploded onto the international scene at the 1997 Cliburn Competition and since has maintained a reputation for performances of panache and elegance. An audience favorite across the country, he has been profiled by *CBS Sunday Morning* and *Reader's Digest*, performed for President and Secretary Clinton, and has an acclaimed discography including one recording that sat atop Billboard's classical charts for nearly six months and another selected as a recording of the year by *The New York Times*.

#### **GEORGE LI** (No. 4)

“A bracing, fearless account...Mr. Li’s playing combined youthful abandon with utter command.”— *The New York Times*

As a child prodigy, American pianist **George Li** made his recital debut in Boston’s Steinway Hall and, in 2011, performed for President Obama in an evening honoring German Chancellor Angela Merkel. He has since emerged as a formidable pianist, rapidly establishing a major international career across three continents after his sensational 2015 Tchaikovsky Competition silver medal win. Also recipient of the 2016 Avery Fisher Career Grant, 2012 Gilmore Young Artist Award, and 2010 Young Concert Artists first prize, the pianist makes his North Texas debut in this concert.

**TILL FELLNER** (No. 5)

“His playing was all Apollonian grace... remarkable in its clarity, musicality, and feline virtuosity”— *The Boston Globe*

Hailed for “natural ease, eloquence and impeccable artistry” (*The Times*), Austrian pianist **Till Fellner** has performed in the world’s leading concert halls and with the most revered conductors. He is particularly well-regarded for his sophisticated readings of Bach and Beethoven alongside music of the modern Viennese school. Among other major projects, the protégé of Alfred Brendel has recorded the Beethoven Fourth and Fifth—which he performs for us—Concertos with Kent Nagano and presented the cycle of 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in New York, Washington, Tokyo, London, Paris, and Vienna.

**CLIBURN AT THE KIMBELL**

*Cliburn at the Kimbell performances begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Piano Pavilion of the Kimbell Art Museum, located at 3333 Camp Bowie Blvd., in Fort Worth's Cultural District.*

**OLGA KERN**, piano

Thursday & Friday, OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2019 | 7:30 p.m

“Call it star quality — music likes Kern the way the camera liked Garbo.”— *The Washington Post*

North Texas audiences are no strangers to the vivid stage presence, passionately confident musicianship, and extraordinary technique that defines the **Olga Kern** concert experience. Our 2001 gold medalist—now recognized as one of her generation’s great artists—returns to Cliburn Concerts for a highly anticipated two-night engagement. Since her last Cliburn performance in 2014, the Russian-American pianist has enthralled audiences at major venues and with leading orchestras across six continents; served as jury chairman of the 2016 Cliburn Amateur Competition and the First Olga Kern International Piano Competition; and was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, for “embodying the spirit of America” in her “salute to tolerance, brotherhood, diversity, and patriotism.”

**CAMILLE THOMAS**, cello + **ROMAN RABINOVICH**, piano

Thursday, NOVEMBER 21, 2019 | 7:30 p.m.

“Camille Thomas... has all the requisite technique and produces a sound I can only liken to drinking hot chocolate: delicious, warming, full of flavour.”— *Gramophone*

Winner of 2014 new artist awards from the French Ministry of Culture and the European Broadcast Union

Competition, Franco-Belgian cellist **Camille Thomas** is conquering the world stage at a staggering pace. The first cellist signed by Deutsche Grammophon in over 40 years, she blends a brilliant command of her instrument with a rare musicality to offer truly memorable concerto and recital appearances.

She is joined in this, her Texas debut, with eloquent young pianist and winner of the 2008 Rubinstein Competition, **Roman Rabinovich**. Though this is also his first performance in our series, audience members will remember Adam Golka's performance of one of Roman's compositions last season at the Kimbell.

**STEPHEN HOUGH**, piano

Thursday & Friday, JANUARY 30 & 31, 2020 | 7:30 p.m.

"It's hard not to be a little awestruck by the breadth of Stephen Hough's passions, to say nothing of his talents. [He] is simply one of the most interesting musicians around." — *The Boston Globe*

One of the more distinctive artists of his generation, **Stephen Hough** combines a distinguished career as a pianist with those of a composer and writer. Named by *The Economist* as one of 20 Living Polymaths, he was the first classical performer to be awarded a MacArthur Fellowship and was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2014.

He has performed with the world's major orchestras and has given recitals at the most prestigious concert halls—including 25 concerto appearances at the BBC Proms; his 50 albums hold four Grammy® nominations and eight *Gramophone* magazine awards; and he holds positions at the Royal Academy of Music, the Royal College in Manchester, and The Juilliard School. Help us welcome this master back to Fort Worth.

**SUSAN GRAHAM**, mezzo-soprano + **MALCOLM MARTINEAU**, piano

Thursday, FEBRUARY 13, 2020 | 7:30 p.m.

"Graham's mezzo-soprano is a voice without regrets, healthy, rounded, ineffably musical, and eager for a challenge." — *The New Yorker*

**Susan Graham**—hailed as "an artist to treasure" by *The New York Times*—has secured her place among the highest echelon of performers, mastering an astonishing range of repertoire and genres along the way. A familiar face at New York's Metropolitan Opera, she also maintains a strong international presence at such key venues as Paris' Théâtre du Châtelet, the Sydney Opera House, Santa Fe Opera, and the Hollywood Bowl.

The Midland, Texas-raised mezzo-soprano and graduate of Texas Tech University and the Manhattan School of Music was dubbed "America's favorite mezzo" by *Gramophone* magazine; she sang at George W. Bush's second inauguration and Senator Edward Kennedy's funeral mass; and she returns to Cliburn Concerts this season, more than 20 years after she was here last, with pianist **Malcolm Martineau**—"one of the world's finest accompanists" (*New York Observer*)

**DANIEL HSU**, piano

2017 CLIBURN BRONZE MEDALIST

Thursday, MARCH 26, 2020 | 7:30 p.m.

"Hsu really hit it out of the park with a very subtly nuanced and even haunting performance."— *Culture Spot LA*

Characterized by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* as a “poet... [with] an expressive edge to his playing that charms, questions, and coaxes,” San Francisco Bay Area-native **Daniel Hsu** captured the bronze medal and prizes for best performance of both the commissioned work and chamber music in the 2017 Cliburn Competition—winning over critics and fans alike.

In the two years since his win, he’s performed around the world, including tours of Japan, Europe, Hawaii, Alaska, and the continental United States; graduated from The Curtis Institute (May 2019) where he’s studied since he was 10; and started programming for Apple’s Shortcuts app on the side. And now he makes his Cliburn Concerts debut.

## **CLIBURN AT THE MODERN**

*All Cliburn at the Modern concerts are conversations moderated by Shields-Collins Bray and begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, located at 3200 Darnell St., in Fort Worth's Cultural District.*

### **THE WOMEN OF THE PULITZER:**

**THE MUSIC OF JULIA WOLFE, CAROLINE SHAW, JENNIFER HIGDON**, composers

Saturday, NOVEMBER 16, 2019 | 2:00 p.m.

Eight women have won the Pulitzer Prize in Music. We’ll spend an afternoon basking in the work of three of these accomplished, visionary composers.

Composer **Julia Wolfe** draws inspiration from folk, classical, and rock genres, bringing a modern sensibility to each while simultaneously tearing down the walls between them. She’s written a major body of work for strings, from quartets to full orchestra, for organizations such as the New York Philharmonic, New World Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Munich Chamber Orchestra. And she won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 2015 for *Anthracite Fields*, a concert-length oratorio for chorus and instruments about the Pennsylvania Anthracite coal region. *The Los Angeles Times* called it “a major, profound work” that “compels without overstatement.”

**Caroline Shaw** is a New York-based musician—vocalist, violinist, composer, and producer. She’s recently written for Renée Fleming, Dawn Upshaw, and the Orchestra of St. Luke’s with John Lithgow, and had works premiered by Jonathan Biss with the Seattle Symphony, Anne Sofie von Otter with Philharmonia Baroque, and the LA Philharmonic. She’s written three film scores, produced for both Kanye West and Nas, sang three-part harmony with Sara Bareilles and Ben Folds, and was featured on “Mozart in the Jungle.” And she won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 2013 for *Partita for 8 Voices*, written for the Grammy-winning Roomful of Teeth, of which she is a member.

**Jennifer Hidgon** is one of America’s most acclaimed and frequently performed living composers. Her works are heard live more than 200 times per year and have been recorded on more than 60 CDs. Her extensive commissioners list includes the orchestras of Philadelphia, Chicago, Atlanta, Cleveland, and Minnesota, as well as the Tokyo String Quartet, Lark Quartet, Eighth Blackbird, and the President’s Own Marine Band. She has five Grammy nominations and two wins, and received the prestigious International Opera Award for Best World Premiere for her first opera, *Cold Mountain*. And she won the Pulitzer Prize in 2010 for her Violin Concerto, with the committee citing the work as “a deeply engaging piece that combines flowing lyricism with dazzling virtuosity.”

**JENNIFER KOH**, violin + **VIJAY IYER**, piano and composer

Saturday, MARCH 14, 2020 | 2:00 p.m.

“She is a tireless champion of new music, but is also a nimble enough artist to hop among repertory staples and world premieres with stunning ease.” — *The New York Times*

“There’s probably no frame wide enough to encompass the creative output of the pianist Vijay Iyer.”— *The New York Times*

Recognized for intense, commanding performances, delivered with dazzling virtuosity and technical assurance, violinist **Jennifer Koh** is a forward-thinking artist dedicated to exploring a broad and eclectic repertoire, while promoting diversity and inclusivity in classical music. She was named 2016 Musical America Instrumentalist of the Year, won top prizes at the Tchaikovsky Competition and Concert Artist Guild Competition, and received an Avery Fisher Career Grant. She has expanded the contemporary violin repertoire through a wide range of commissioning projects and has premiered more than 70 works written especially for her.

In spring 2018, she launched *Limitless*, a project celebrating the collaborative relationship between composer and performer; duo commissions are played by Koh and the composers themselves. Her partner for this special Cliburn debut is leading-edge composer-pianist **Vijay Iyer**, whose 22 remarkably diverse recordings have earned him top-album accolades from the likes of *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Rolling Stone*, and NPR; ECHO Klassik Awards; and a Grammy nomination, among other honors.

## **CLIBURN SESSIONS**

*All Cliburn Sessions concerts begin at 8:00 p.m. at Scat Jazz Lounge, located at 111 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, in downtown Fort Worth.*

## **PUBLIQuartet**

Thursday, OCTOBER 24, 2019 | 8:00 p.m.

“The winner of the third presidential debate, indubitably: the PUBLIQuartet.”— *The Washington Post*

Applauded by *The Washington Post* as “a perfect encapsulation of today’s trends in chamber music,” and by *The New Yorker* as “independent-minded,” PUBLIQuartet’s genre-bending programs span the classical canon and also feature open-form improvisations that expand the techniques and aesthetic of the traditional string quartet. Founded in 2010, the award-winning group has rapidly made its mark on the classical scene. Recent highlights include debuts at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, along with BAM Café, Le Poisson Rouge and Dizzy’s Club Coca Cola, and Detroit Jazz Festival, and a special appearance with Billy Childs at the Newport Jazz Festival.

In 2016, PUBLIQuartet was selected by *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* to perform a 90-minute improvised “soundtrack” to the final Presidential Debate, streamed live on the Late Show’s Facebook page, which has over one million views.

**WindSync + Ivan Trevino**, percussion

Thursday, JANUARY 23, 2020 | 8:00 p.m.

“...staunchly dedicated to pushing the boundaries of wind quintet performance with youthful, pop-rock sensibility.” — *Winnipeg Free Press*

Award-winning wind quintet **WindSync** prides itself on eliminating the “fourth wall,” achieving the highest artistic levels while connecting directly with audiences through intimate and joyful concerts. They’ve played the Met Museum, Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, Carnegie Hall (Weill), Ravinia, Hobby Center, and the Library of Congress.

Now **WindSync** comes to Cliburn Sessions with *Song Book*: a collaborative experience with progressive songwriter, percussionist, and music ambassador for the U.S. State Department, **Ivan Trevino**. The program will span from covers of Radiohead, Sigur Ros, and Son Lux to their own original music for wind ensemble, percussion solo, and the collective, plus a little singing, vibraphone, and poetry. Ivan’s music is regularly performed around the world as standard repertoire in the field of percussion, with over 30 works to his name. He’s also headlined concerts across North and South Americas, and Asia with cello/percussion quartet Break of Reality.

## **JCT TRIO**

Thursday, APRIL 16, 2020 | 8:00 p.m.

“Excitement may be the best word to characterize the JCT Piano Trio.” — *Lincoln Star Journal*

Three renowned visionary artists of the next generation combine talents in this eclectic new piano trio, JCT (pronounced “junction”). Violinist **Stefan Jackiw** has been recognized for musicianship that combines poetry and purity with an impeccable technique. Pianist **Conrad Tao**, who appears worldwide as a pianist and composer—including two previous Cliburn Concerts appearances—has been dubbed a musician of “probing intellect and open-hearted vision” by *The New York Times*. Approaching both old and new works with the same curiosity and emotional commitment, cellist **Jay Campbell** has been called “electrifying” by *The New York Times*. Recent concerts of the trio have included performances at Washington Performing Arts, Portland Ovations, and the Royal Conservatory in Toronto.

## **CLIBURN FESTIVAL**

*All Cliburn Festival concerts are held at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, located at 3200 Darnell St., in Fort Worth's Cultural District.*

### **2020 CLIBURN FESTIVAL: BEETHOVEN AT 250**

Thursday, FEBRUARY 27, 2020 | 7:30 p.m.

Friday, FEBRUARY 28, 2020 | 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, FEBRUARY 29, 2020 | 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, FEBRUARY 29, 2020 | 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, MARCH 1, 2019 | 2:00 p.m.



*Artists and programs will be announced in May 2019. Subscribe today for the full, immersive festival experience for the best seats and best savings.*

The Cliburn joins a worldwide celebration of the 250th birthday of one of the world's greatest composers: Beethoven. He is revered as a musical revolutionary—having propelled music and its capabilities into the modern era—but also beloved for his profound connection to the joys, griefs, and hopefulness of humanity.

Cliburn Festival artists-in-residence will come together to explore his remarkable oeuvre of solo, chamber, and vocal works in five concerts over four days. It will be a showcase of the genius and spirit of Beethoven.

### **Cliburn Sponsors**

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