

For Immediate Release

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SANTA FE PRO MUSICA NAMES NEW ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

20 YEAR RELATIONSHIP YIELDS EVOLUTIONARY PATH FORWARD



(Santa Fe, New Mexico) - Santa Fe Pro Musica announces the appointment of Colin Jacobsen, the acclaimed violinist, composer and arranger, as their new artistic director.

Jacobsen's first connection with Santa Fe Pro Musica was a benefit concert at the Santa Fe Opera in 2003, where he shared the stage with [Yo-Yo Ma](#) on cello and [Joel Fan](#) on piano. He has since returned to Santa Fe every few seasons, and is Pro Musica's most frequent guest artist of the past two decades. An extraordinarily versatile musician, performing everything from Bach to Bernstein, with extensive cross-cultural music experiences, and mastery of soloist, string quartet and ensemble leadership roles, Jacobsen embodies the lived experience and collaborative nature of a world-class chamber musician.

The Washington Post called him "One of the most interesting figures on the classical music scene." He is a founding member of two game-changing, audience-expanding ensembles, the string quartet *Brooklyn Rider* and the orchestra *The Knights*. In an interview with [Strings Magazine](#), Jacobsen said, "[there is] an immediacy to American ensembles and presenters wanting to make real strides in terms of representation within classical music. We've been chipping away and widening the openings with *the Knights* and *Brooklyn Rider* for years. And now it's becoming a real push, industry wide." He is not only aware of trends in the chamber music industry, his music influences them. As a composer Jacobsen has written works for artists such as Emanuel Ax, Yo-Yo Ma, Jamie Barton, the San Francisco Girls Chorus and Brooklyn Youth Chorus, Avi Avital, and Kinan Azmeh.

Additional accolades and collaborations include:

- Recipient of the [Avery Fisher Career Grant](#)
- Member of the [Silkroad Ensemble](#)
- Collaborations with [Kayhan Kalhor](#); [Magos Herrera](#); [Bela Fleck](#)
- Collaborations with [Dance Heginbotham](#); [Aparna Ramaswamy](#); [Pam Tanowitz Dance](#); [Mark Morris Dance Group](#)

In an acceptance letter to the Santa Fe Pro Musica Staff and Board, Jacobsen shared, “*The three pillars of Santa Fe Pro Musica's season (orchestral concerts, string quartets and Baroque concerts) are areas that I'm passionate about and have engaged deeply with throughout my life. Part of honoring history and tradition is to question rigorously the assumptions and underpinnings of programming and performance, and to find ways of connecting what happens in the concert hall to larger societal issues, widening the tent culturally for the music we consider "classical."*”

After Anne-Marie McDermott’s departure in the spring, and in support of the organization moving successfully and vibrantly into its next iteration following 4 decades of founder leadership, Pro Musica took stock. Carol Redman, appointed as Music Director, created a Musicians Advisory Council to explore various artistic leadership models and recommend to the Pro Musica board a model that best addressed the artistic and financial needs of Pro Musica. Redman explains, “The council became our expert think tank.” Composed of eight Pro Musica musicians with over 350 combined years of professional music experience, two board members and the executive director. The council met every two weeks from June through September.

“Colin Jacobsen's appointment emerged directly from the clarity and great work of this council in cooperation with a dedicated and visionary board of trustees. His long relationship with Santa Fe Pro Musica creates a bridge between honoring our past and igniting our future.” Andréa Cassutt, Executive Director

“Colin's rich musical imagination, his musical generosity, and his warmly engaging personality have always brought joy to our musicians in the rehearsal process. This infuses the music with enthusiasm and translates into joyful concert experiences for all!” Carol Redman, Music Director

Santa Fe Pro Musica invites the public to join them in celebrating and welcoming Colin Jacobsen during their [Bach Festival in December](#), when Jacobsen will perform the complete set of Bach's sonatas and partitas for solo violin, and lead the Santa Fe Pro Musica Bach Ensemble in select Brandenburg Concertos.

You can also learn more about Colin by visiting his website [here](#).

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ABOUT SANTA FE PRO MUSICA

Santa Fe Pro Musica brings together outstanding musicians to inspire and educate audiences of all ages through the performance of great music. They offer performances, a multi-faceted music education program, and a variety of opportunities to help the people of northern New Mexico develop a life-long relationship with the power of music! Learn more at www.sfpmusica.com.