CU ★ PRESENTS

2026-27 EVENTS



College of Music
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

Welcome! Here's some helpful info for you.

ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS
Visit **cupresents.org/accessibility** to learn more.

LATECOMERS are seated at the discretion of house management. Some venues may not be able to accommodate late seating.

SILENCE CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL DEVICES, and refrain from use during the performance.
View this program on your device anytime before or after the show, or during intermission.

PHOTOGRAPHY and **AUDIO / VIDEO RECORDINGS** are prohibited during the performance.

CU Boulder is a **SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS**.



CU Presents is the home of performing arts on the beautiful University of Colorado Boulder campus. With hundreds of concerts, plays, recitals and more on our stages each year, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

cupresents.org/your-visit

Faculty Tuesdays

The Art of Collaboration

An Evening of Chamber Music with **The Fischer Duo**
and College of Music Faculty
Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2026, 7:30 p.m.
Grusin Music Hall

Program

Trio for Flute, Cello and Piano in G Major, Hob. XV:15 (1790)

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

I. Allegro
II. Andante
III. Finale: Allegro moderato

Christina Jennings, flute
Norman Fischer, cello
Jeanne Kierman Fischer, piano

Nocturne for Two Cellos and Piano (1910)

Rebecca Clarke (1886-1979)

Meta Weiss, cello
Norman Fischer, cello
Jeanne Kierman Fischer, piano

Sextet for Strings from Capriccio, Op. 85 (1942)

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)
Harumi Rhodes & Andrea Segar, violins
Erika Eckert & Devin Cowan, violas
Norman Fischer & David Requiro, cellos

Intermission

Trés Lent (Hommage a Messiaen) (1994)

Joan Tower (b. 1938)
Norman Fischer, cello
Jeanne Kierman Fischer, piano

Sonata for Violoncello and Piano No. 2 (2020)

William Bolcom (b. 1938)
I. Introduction - Allegro
II. Andante mosso
III. Scherzo non giocoso
IV. Waltz - variations
Norman Fischer, cello
Jeanne Kierman Fischer, piano

We are so grateful to have Norman Fischer and Jeanne Kierman Fischer here with us for a chamber music residency this week, thanks to the generosity of a Roser Visiting Artist Grant. They have been working with the chamber music, cello, and collaborative piano students, and the College of Music faculty are thrilled to have them join us this evening for this special Faculty Tuesday performance. The Fischer Duo is known as a dynamic, virtuosic, and inspiring duo that is committed to education, excellence, and championing the music of composers of our time. This residency is a chance for our College of Music students to get to work with some of the most innovative and inspiring chamber musicians in the country.

Personnel

Devin Cowan, viola
Erika Eckert, viola
Norman Fischer, cello
Jeanne Kierman Fischer, piano
David Requiro, cello
Harumi Rhodes, violin
Andrea Segar, violin
Meta Weiss, cello

Devin Cowan

Violist Devin Cowan is an artist and performer based in Boulder. He holds degrees from Oberlin Conservatory, The Juilliard School and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Colorado Boulder, Cowan studies with Erika Eckert and Richard O'Neill, and receives chamber music training with the Takács Quartet.

From 2025 to 2026, Cowan was a member of the Koa String Quartet and recently performed alongside artists including Tessa Lark, Yuja Wang, Margaret Dyer Harris, Matthew Zalkind and Christopher Costanza. A dedicated music educator, he has served on the viola faculty at Kinhaven Music School and as a visiting instructor at Clark University. He is also regularly involved with El Sistema music education programs in Colorado. In his free time, Cowan enjoys hiking in the Rocky Mountains and watching the New York Mets.

Norman Fischer

Grammy award winner Norman Fischer has concertized on five continents and in 49 of the 50 United States. He was the cellist with the Concord String Quartet through its 16-year career and winner of the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, two Grammy nominations and an Emmy Award. In more than 1000 concerts, the quartet performed 18 Bartók cycles, 36 Beethoven cycles and premiered 50 works. They also recorded 40 works for RCA Red Seal, Vox, Nonesuch, and CRI. Fischer's chamber music expertise has led to performances with the American, Audubon, Blair, Cavani, Chester, Chiara, Ciompi, Cleveland, Dover, Ensō, Emerson, Jasper, Juilliard, Mendelssohn, Schoenberg and Telegraph string quartets, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Banff, Chamber Music International, Context (including a complete Beethoven piano trio cycle on period instruments) and Houston's Da Camera Society. He has also served on many competition juries, including Naumburg and the Paolo Borciani and Banff International string quartet competitions.

Fischer is the cellist with the Fischer Duo, a group with pianist Jeanne Kierman that was founded in 1971 and specializes in both the classical masterworks of Beethoven, Brahms and Schumann as well as music of our own time. They have more than a dozen recordings. Most notable are: *Imaginées: Music of French Masters*, *Robert Sirota Complete Cello Music*, *American Music in the 1990s, Born in America in 1938*, *Complete Music for Cello and Piano of Chopin and Liszt* and *Complete Cello Music of William Bolcom*. The *Beethoven Cello and Piano Complete* and *Brahms Sonatas* are available on the Centaur label. The most recent recordings are 2020 *Visions and Rochberg: Testaments*

on the Navonna label. The Duo has premiered more than 30 new scores by composers such as George Rochberg, Augusta Read Thomas, Robert Sirota, Pierre Jalbert and Richard Wilson. They continue to actively perform throughout the United States and twice have served as artistic ambassadors for the USIA, with tours to South America and South Africa.

Fischer continues to be committed to music for solo cello. His 1983 New York solo debut of the Bach *Six Suites* in one evening was hailed by New York Times critic John Rockwell as "inspiring." During the 1994 season, Fischer's recording of William Bolcom's unaccompanied cello score was featured on Broadway as incidental music for Arthur Miller's play *Broken Glass*. Fischer was honored by being invited to open the 1995 Tanglewood Music Center season with a performance of Henri Dutilleux's *Trois Strophes sur le nom Sacher,* and during the 1996 Tanglewood season was similarly honored in presenting the world premiere of Mr. Bolcom's Suite in C Minor. He has performed the standard concerto classics with conductors such as Lukas Foss, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Robert Spano, Larry Rachleff and Efrain Guigui. He has also championed new works for the genre, such as Robert Sirota's Cello Concerto (Tanglewood 1985), Augusta Read Thomas's *Vigil* (Cleveland Chamber Symphony, recorded on the GM label), Steven Stucky's *Voyages* (recorded for Opus One in 1991), Ross Lee Finney's *Narrative* (with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony, recorded for New World Records), and most recently Anthony Brandt's Chamber Concerto (2025) written for the 50th anniversary of the Shepherd School of Music.

Fischer is currently Herbert S. Autrey Professor of Cello and Director of Chamber Music at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston. Before accepting this position in 1992, he held positions at Dartmouth College and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Fischer also holds the Charles E. Culpepper Foundation Master Teacher Chair at the Tanglewood Music Center, where he has been on the summer faculty since 1985. He plays on a cello made for him by Sergio Peresson (1972) and bows by David Hawthorne and Benoit Rolland. He is a Larsen Performing Artist and plays on “Il Cannone” strings.

Jeanne Kierman Fischer

Jeanne Kierman Fischer has performed solo recitals in North America and Africa, and is a specialist in American music. She is a sought-after collaborator and has partnered with artists such as Jon Kimura Parker, Kathleen Winkler, Ilya Kaler, Roberto Diaz, Godfried Hoogeveen, Michel Debost, Richie Hawley, Phyllis Curtin, Carol Webber and many more. She is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, the Dalcroze School, École Américaine and the New England Conservatory, and has studied with William Masselos, Miles Mauney, Victor Rosenbaum, Robert & Jean Casadesus, and Menachem Pressler. She has performed for Tanglewood, Da Camera of Houston, Mohawk Trail Concerts, Chamber Music Ann Arbor, Maverick concerts, Skaneateles and the Marrowstone Festival, among others. For 10 years she toured extensively under the sponsorship of the New England Foundation and the Vermont Arts Council as a member of the Alcott Piano Quartet. Formerly on the faculties of the Oberlin Conservatory and Dartmouth College, Kierman has made a professional specialty as a player and teacher of ensemble

repertoire. Since 1992, Kierman has been an artist teacher on the faculty of the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston, Texas. In the summer months, she works with students in piano chamber music at the Greenwood Music Camp in Cummington, Massachusetts. Kierman has written about her experiences as a collaborative pianist for Piano and Keyboard Magazine and has recorded for Bridge, Parma, Centaur, Albany, Naxos, Northeastern and Gasparo.

Fischer Duo

Celebrating 55 years of playing together, the Fischer Duo delights lovers of chamber music across the United States with performances described as “boldly imaginative and technically assured,” (Boston Globe), “intense and persuasive” (Gramophone), and “Soaring lines with both beauty and intensity” (The New York Times).

The Fischer Duo has been widely praised by music critics for its choice of repertoire. Thoroughly versed in the classical repertoire of Brahms, Beethoven and Schumann, the Fischer Duo has acquired an equally impressive reputation for rediscovering neglected works of the past (Busoni, Boulanger, Foote, Alfano, Pizzetti) and for commissioning new pieces from masters such as William Bolcom, George Rochberg, Richard Wilson, Samuel Jones, Augusta Read Thomas, Robert Sirota, Pierre Jalbert and over 30 more. “One felt like applauding the Fischer Duo before they even played a note for programming rarely-heard cello music by Chopin and Liszt,” wrote a reviewer in the Washington Post, A recital of this exact repertoire is available on Bridge Records (9187) and has received rave reviews from Strings Magazine and The Gramophone.

The Fischer Duo's extensive discography is impressive. Their CD debut, *Imaginées: Music of French Masters*, which was given Fanfare magazine's highest recommendation: "For fine sound, on top of probing duo teamwork and elegant program-making." They have three recordings available on the Gasparo label. American Music in the 1990s [GSCD-349] includes commissioned works for the duo by George Rochberg, Pierre Jalbert, Samuel Jones and Augusta Read Thomas. The Strad magazine wrote of the disc, "The duo gives thoroughly persuasive performances of all four works, scratching through the surface gesture to get to the heart of the music's expressive potential." Also available on Gasparo is *Robert Sirota: Works for Cello* [GSCD-350] and *Born in America in 1938* [GSCD-351] featuring works by William Bolcom, John Corigliano, Ellsworth Milburn, John Harbison, Joan Tower and Charles Wuorinen.

In addition, the Fischer Duo released *Chopin & Liszt: Music for Cello and Piano*, on the Bridge label [Bridge 9187]. Strings Magazine called the disc, "A most impressive record, both for the music and the playing." A compilation of William Bolcom *Complete Works for Cello* is available on the Naxos label [8.559348] (a four-star rave from BBC Music Magazine). Centaur Records has just released the Fischer Duo's 4 CD recording *Beethoven: Cello, Piano Complete* [CRC 3322/23/24/25]. The Strad has given this recording its highest rating. Gramophone stated, "To say this is a grand achievement would be an understatement." In 2018, Centaur Records released the two Brahms Sonatas and the Op. 91 Songs in the cello version with mezzo-soprano Abigail Fischer [CRC 3648]. Gramophone says about this recording, "long, thrilling arcs of dramatic insight

laid over a gracefully plastic structure, and implemented with rich Brahmsian sound and commanding technical wisdom." The Duo's most recent release is 2020 *Visions* which includes the world premiere recordings of three commissioned works to celebrate the 50th anniversary by William Bolcom (Sonata #2), Robert Sirota (Family Portraits) and Theo Chandler (Studies in Change). Works by Hilary Tann, Michael Cohen and Preston Strahly are also included.

The Fischer Duo is also known for enlightened residency work. The United States Information Agency (USIA) selected the Fischer Duo as artistic ambassadors for tours in South America and South Africa receiving the highest ratings for musical maturity and open access to audiences. They have recently performed and taught in China, Germany and Singapore.

The critic from the Toledo Blade summed up a concert experience with the Fischer Duo: "If there was a prize for Most Elegant Sound by a Chamber Group, the Fischer Duo would surely win it. The two together have a sort of slow-burning combustion on stage that makes for some really exciting and spontaneous music. This is a pair that really knows their repertoire, and more importantly, knows how to absorb an audience into their own musical universe."



From orchestras, bands and choirs, to jazz and world music ensembles, to world-class faculty and guest performances, the CU Boulder

College of Music

brings **hundreds of stunning, free performances** to Boulder audiences throughout the academic year.

Visit	Explore	View
COLLEGE OF MUSIC WEBSITE	**UPCOMING EVENTS**	**COLLEGE DIRECTORY**



Whether you're interested in the classics or modern musicals, Hip-Hop or contemporary dance—**or perhaps a bit of it all**—remarkable performances are the heart of CU Boulder

Theatre & Dance



Visit	Explore	View
THEATRE & DANCE WEBSITE	**UPCOMING EVENTS**	**DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY**

CU PRESENTS

Choose your best season yet.



15% **OFF**
Four or five events
with Choice 4+

20% **OFF**
Six or more events
with Choice 6+

cupresents.org/seasontickets
or 303-492-8008

Choose events from across the CU Presents season.

CU ★ PRESENTS

CU Boulder students, faculty and staff get

DISCOUNTS

to most

CU PRESENTS EVENTS

25% **OFF**
Up to four tickets per event

60% **OFF**
For groups of 10 or more

cupresents.org/discounts
or 303-492-8008





A gift to the performing arts *is a gift that* keeps on giving.

Your annual contributions provide essential support for the Artist Series, Eklund Opera, Musical Theatre, Takács Quartet and Theatre & Dance.

You make these performances possible.

Explore
GIVING OPTIONS