

HAVEN

Soul, power, connection.

A refuge for the creation of new music for soprano, clarinet, and piano.

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

Hailed by Fanfare Magazine as an “artist of growing reputation for her artistry and intelligence...with a voice of goddess-like splendor” **Lindsay Kesselman** is a two time GRAMMY-nominated soprano who passionately advocates for contemporary music. Recent and upcoming highlights include the premiere of *Energy in All Directions* by Kenneth Frazelle with Sandbox Percussion at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, the role of Anna in Kurt Weill’s *The Seven Deadly Sins* with the Charlotte Symphony, *Astronautica: Voices of Women in Space* with Voices of Ascension, ongoing performances of two works written for Kesselman by John Mackey with orchestras and wind symphonies across the country, the John Corigliano 80th birthday celebration at National Sawdust (2018), *Quixote* (Amy Beth Kirsten and Mark DeChiazza) with Peak Performances at Montclair State University (2017), a leading role in Louis Andriessen’s opera *Theatre of the World* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Dutch National Opera and an international tour of *Einstein on the Beach* with the Philip Glass Ensemble (2012-2015). Kesselman is featured on several recent recordings: Chris Cerrone’s *The Arching Path* (2021, In a Circle Records), Russell Hartenberger’s *Requiem for Percussion and Voices* (2019, Nexus Records), Chris Cerrone’s *The Pieces That Fall to Earth* with Wild Up (2019, New Amsterdam Records), Mathew Rosenblum’s *Lament/Witches’ Sabbath* with the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble (2018, New Focus Recordings), Louis Andriessen’s *Theatre of the World* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic (2017, Nonesuch), and Jon Magnussen’s *Twinge* with HAVEN (2016, Blue Griffin). Kesselman has been the resident soprano of the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble for 12 seasons and HAVEN, Kesselman’s trio with Kimberly Cole Luevano, clarinet and Midori Koga, piano (www.haventrio.com) actively commissions and tours throughout North America. HAVEN is the recipient of a 2021 Barlow Endowment for Music Composition award with composer David Biedenbender and a 2021 Chamber Music America Classical Commissioning Grant with composer Ivette Herryman Rodriguez. Kesselman holds degrees in voice performance and music education from Rice University and Michigan State University. She is represented by Trudy Chan at Black Tea Music and lives in Charlotte, NC with her son Rowan. More information can be found at: www.lindsaykesselman.com

Kimberly Cole Luevano fulfills multiple callings in her life: clarinet performer, chamber music collaborator, clarinet teacher/educator/advisor, university administrator, wife, mom, and daughter, amongst many other roles. With reviews such as “a most skillful artist” (*Fanfare Magazine*), “breathtaking...” (*The Clarinet*), “virtuosic tone and technique” (*Tampa Bay Times*), “exceptionally sensitive and introspective rendition” (*The*

Clarinet), she has established herself as a formidable soloist and chamber musician. Currently Professor of Clarinet and Chair of the Division of Instrumental Studies in the College of Music at the University of North Texas, Luevano relishes her relationships with UNT's diverse, talented students and colleagues. Luevano joined the UNT faculty in 2011, taught at the Interlochen Arts Camp from 2003 to 2012, and has served the International Clarinet Association as Pedagogy Chair and coordinator of their High School Competition. She has presented acclaimed solo and chamber performances, adjudicated, and presented masterclasses on four continents. Former students have been prize winners in international competitions and now occupy performing and teaching positions throughout North America. With pianist Midori Koga and soprano Lindsay Kesselman, she forms the trio, Haven; she is also a founding member of the acclaimed clarinet, violin, and piano trio, TrioPolis. Luevano recorded William Bolcom's Clarinet Concerto in 2022 for release on the GIA label with Eugene Corporon and the North Texas Wind Symphony. GIA also released their recording of Michael Daugherty's *Brooklyn Bridge* in 2016. Luevano's recordings on the Fleur de Son label, *Bright Angel* (2013) and *Atonement* (2015), received critical acclaim and were included in the Grammy nomination process. Her world premiere recordings with TrioPolis, *TrioPolis One*, was released on the Fleur de Son label in 2017. Numerous chamber recordings are also available on the Centaur and Albany labels. Originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Luevano studied in Paris, France as a U.S. Government Fulbright Scholar and Kade Fellow and was a prizewinner in numerous competitions. She earned degrees at Michigan State University and the University of North Texas and is immensely grateful to her mentors, Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr, James Gillespie, and Keith Lemmons. Prior to her appointment at the University of North Texas, she was Professor of Clarinet at Eastern Michigan University for fifteen years. Luevano plays and endorses Selmer Paris instruments and is a D'Addario and Company Performing Artist. She resides in Corinth with her husband and enjoys spending time with her two college-aged sons and her spirited border collie.

With performances described as "passionate" (*Ann Arbor News*), "meltingly lovely", "rippling clean" (*Globe and Mail*), and "with exquisite tone colors" (*Fanfare Magazine*), pianist **Midori Koga** has been featured as soloist and chamber musician throughout Canada, USA, Spain, Taiwan, China and Austria, including highlight appearances in New York's Merkin Hall, Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium, and for the ProMozart Society of Detroit. In the current season, Koga joins *Soundstreams Ensemble* as featured guests at the Shanghai Conservatory New Music Festival, and at Koerner Hall in Toronto, Canada. Internationally released recordings can be heard on the Albany, Equilibrium, Fleur de Son, NAXOS, Blue Griffin and Centrediscs labels. In addition to her collaboration with HAVEN, Midori has performed with NEXUS Percussion on multiple occasions, including on the recently released CD *NEXUS Plays John Cage: The City Wears a Slouch Hat*. The CD recorded with mezzo-soprano Patricia Green *Ice Age and Beyond: Works by Canadian Women Composers*, funded by a grant through the Canadian Music Centre, with distribution throughout the US (Albany) and Canada (CMC Distribution Inc.), was awarded a Four Star review by the BBC Music Magazine. In another Canadian project funded by the Ontario Arts Council, the recording *Glistening Pianos: Two Piano Works by Alice Ho*

featuring the piano duo 2X10 with pianist Lydia Wong, received a JUNO nomination for recording in the Best Contemporary Work category. Koga currently serves on the piano and pedagogy faculty at the University of Toronto, and is Associate Dean, Graduate Education.