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GREAT MUSIC AT ST. BART'S PRESENTS

Monday, April 25, 2016, at 7:30 pm in the Chapel

ANDY AKIHO & THE SEBASTIANS

with:

Kristin Lee, violin

Ian David Rosenbaum, percussion

Amphion String Quartet



[Andy Akiho](#), photo by [Aestheticize Media](#); [The Sebastians](#)

Music by the dynamic young composer Andy Akiho, which has been praised as “mold-breaking” and “vital,” mixes with a series of Baroque masterpieces in this program performed by some of the finest young chamber musicians and ensembles on the New York music scene: violinist Kristin Lee, percussionist Ian David Rosenbaum, the Amphion String Quartet, and “leading young early-music ensemble” The Sebastians. Akiho himself also performs, on steel pan. The concert, presented by the *Great Music at St. Bart's* series (produced by the Mid-Manhattan Performing Arts Foundation), takes place in the St. Bart's Chapel, a wonderfully intimate space ideally suited for contemporary chamber music.

The Sebastians' segments of the program, early-Baroque works – chamber pieces by Purcell, Schmelzer, and Graupner; and Biber's exciting *Battalia (Battle)* for string ensemble – and one of the era's most popular masterpieces, Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 3*, both echo and contrast with the keen sense of line and syncopated counterpoint in Akiho's *LigNEouS* for string

quartet and marimba and *Deciduous* for violin and steel pan, which will be performed by Kristin Lee, for whom the work was written, and Akiho.

BIBER *Battalia à 10* for strings (1673)

AKIHO *LigNEouS* for marimba and string quartet (2010)

SCHMELZER Sonata for three violins in D Major (c. 1660-1670)

PURCELL Fantasia upon a Ground for three violins in D Major (c. 1680)

GRAUPNER Presto from Canon for two violins, cello, and continuo

AKIHO *Deciduous* for violin and steel pan (2014)

BACH *Brandenburg* Concerto No. 3 (1721)

Watch Kristin Lee and Andy Akiho perform *Deciduous* in a video clip on the St. Bart's [event page](#).

Andy Akiho, whose work has been described as “mold-breaking,” “alert and alive,” “dramatic,” and “vital” by The New York Times, is an eclectic composer and performer of contemporary classical music. Recent engagements include commissioned premieres by the New York Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, and Carnegie Hall's Ensemble ACJW. Akiho's debut CD, *No One To Know One*, on innova Recordings, features compositions that pose intricate rhythms and exotic timbres around his primary instrument, the steel pan. www.andyakiho.com

Named the recipient of a 2015 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Korean-American violinist **Kristin Lee** has been praised by The Strad for her “mastery of tone.” A violinist of remarkable versatility and impeccable technique, Ms. Lee enjoys a vibrant career as a soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, and educator. www.violinistkristinlee.com

Praised for his “excellent” and “precisely attuned” performances by The New York Times, percussionist **Ian David Rosenbaum** made his Kennedy Center debut in 2009 and later that year garnered a special prize created for him at the Salzburg International Marimba Competition. Mr. Rosenbaum joined the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's CMS Two program in 2012 as only the second percussionist they have selected in their history. www.iandavidrosenbaum.com

Hailed for its “gripping intensity” and “suspenseful and virtuoso playing” (San Francisco Classical Voice), the **Amphion String Quartet** (Katie Hyun and David Southorn, violin; Wei-Yang Andy Lin, viola; Mihai Marica, cello) is a winner of the 2011 Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition and joined the roster of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's CMS Two Program in fall 2013. Through CMS, the ensemble made its Alice Tully Hall debut in March 2014, about which The New York Times praised “the focused, forceful young Amphion String Quartet” for its “sharply detailed performances.” www.amphionquartet.com

The Sebastians are a dynamic musical ensemble specializing in music of the Baroque and Classical eras. Lauded as “everywhere sharp-edged and engaging” (The New York Times), the Sebastians have also been praised for their “well-thought-out articulation and phrasing” (Early Music Review) and “elegant string playing... immaculate in tuning and balance” (Early Music Today). Winners of the Audience Prize at the 2012 Early Music America Baroque Performance Competition, the Sebastians were also finalists in

the 2011 York International Early Music Competition and the 2011 Early Music America/Naxos Recording Competition. www.sebastians.org

Tickets: \$35, \$15 for Students and Seniors

Tickets may be purchased online at <http://mmpaf.org>, by phone by calling 212-378-0248, or in person at St. Bart's in Midtown Manhattan, 325 Park Avenue at 51st Street.

[Great Music at St. Bart's](http://mmpaf.org) is produced by the Mid-Manhattan Performing Arts Foundation, an independent 501(c)(3) corporation established to cultivate, promote, sponsor and develop the understanding and love of the performing arts as presented at St. Bartholomew's Church, a treasured masterpiece of architecture on the east side of Manhattan's midtown. The corporation sponsors performances of music, dance, drama, and other performing arts as well as the exhibition of works in the film and fine arts genres. <http://mmpaf.org>

March 23, 2016