

8 Strings & a Whistle

Eight Strings & a Whistle has been committed to presenting and expanding the repertoire for the unique combination of flute, viola, and cello since 1998. A cutting-edge presence, the Trio champions Baroque, Classical, and Romantic repertoire, and collaborates regularly with a wide roster of living composers, premiering and performing their pieces throughout the concert season.

Eight Strings & a Whistle's appearances include performances at the Festival Música Contemporánea de la Habana (Havana, Cuba), the Festival of New American Music (Sacramento, California), the Spectri Sonori Series at Tulane University (New Orleans, Louisiana), the Stern Virtuoso Series at Skidmore College (Saratoga Springs, New York), and a Fine Arts PATH Residency at Southeast Missouri State University. Performances in New York City include the premiere of Jorge Amado's *Concertino for flute, viola and cello and string orchestra* with the United Nations Symphony Orchestra in Merkin Hall, concerts at the Tenri Cultural Institute, the 2014 Queens New Music Festival, Spectrum, Merkin Concert Hall, and Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre at Symphony Space. Television and radio appearances include "Minding Your Business", hosted by June Middleton (MNN TV), and Maine Public Radio's live performance series with host Suzanne Nance. Winner of the Artists International Special Presentation Award, Eight Strings & a Whistle performed its critically acclaimed New York Debut at Merkin Concert Hall in May 2003.

Eight Strings & a Whistle's most recent recording, *...and nothing remains the same...* was released on Ravello Records in November 2021. Other recordings on Ravello Records, include *Albert's Window*, released in November 2015; *96 Strings and 2 Whistles*, a recording of the music of Scott Brickman, featuring Eight Strings & a Whistle with pianist, Beth Levin, released in August 2016; and *Douglas Anderson's Chamber Symphonies 2, 3 & 4*, released in January 2016. The Trio can also be heard on *TULPE*, a recording of music by Sarah Davol and GRAMMY-nominated artist Dawn Avery (Okenti Records, January 2008) and *Music in Diverse Styles* (Ravello Records, December, 2024.)

In June 2017, Eight Strings & a Whistle launched its first 8SW Composer Competition to further its desire to promote chamber music for the flute, viola, and cello and to encourage the writing of contemporary chamber music in general. The competition is held once every two years.

Suzanne Gilchrest, flutist, has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States, Germany, Austria, Italy, and Switzerland. She has been noted for her “highly artistic standards” (*Vorarlberger Nachrichten*, Bregenz, Austria), her “beautiful sound” (*Anzeiger der Stadt Kloten*, Switzerland), and her “polished and brilliant playing” (*Dolomiten Zeitung*, Bolzano, Italy). Her recordings as a member of the Browning-Gilchrest Duo, *Serenade for flute and guitar* and *Duo Chant* (Prospect Classics label), have received wide critical acclaim. Live radio performances include several appearances on “Around New York” on WNYC-FM, “Morning Pro Musica” on WGBH-FM in Boston, and “Live at 11” on Maine Public Radio. She is a Powell Artist and is currently a member of the Flute and Chamber Music faculty of the Department of Music and Performing Arts at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University.

Violist **Ina Litera** is an active symphonic and chamber musician, performing with many New York–based ensembles. As a soloist, she has performed Hindemith’s *Trauermusik*, Dittersdorf’s *Sinfonia Concertante*, Hummel’s *Potpourri*, and Berlioz’s *Harold in Italy*. She premiered Douglas Anderson’s solo viola work “...mood, enough...” in 2007 and recorded it for the Ravello Records 2018 release *One at a Time*. Ina has performed and recorded with many notable musicians, including saxophonist David Sanborn, John Zorn, Chris Rael, Galt MacDermott, and with the band Church of Betty. Live radio performances include appearances on “Around New York” on WNYC, WBAI Radio, and “Live at 11” on Maine Public Radio. She is an Adjunct Lecturer at The City University of New York, and is on faculty at the Third Street Music School Settlement in New York City.

Matt Goeke, performs as soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player in a broad range of musical styles. Classical recordings include North/South Recordings and 4Tay, Inc, and he has also recorded for Opus One Records, Polygram, Elektra, Tzadik, Innova, and Koch International Classics labels. Non-classical recordings are with the bands GIANTfingers and Voltaire. He can also be heard on Angelique Kidjo’s 2007 Grammy Award winning album *Djin Djin*, and on David Bowie’s *Time Will Crawl*. Matt is also a member of the di.vi.sion Piano Trio, whose debut recording, *Music of Merrill Clark*, was released in October 2015 by Albany Records, and whose second CD, *Dream Forms*, devoted to the music of Steven Burke, was released in December 2017. In addition to maintaining an active teaching studio, Matt is an Adjunct Lecturer at the Borough of Manhattan Community College/CUNY, and coaches for the New York Youth Symphony’s Chamber Music program. His most recent solo performance was the Weinberg Cello Concerto with the New York Repertory Orchestra.

For more information please visit: www.eightstringsandawhistle.com