



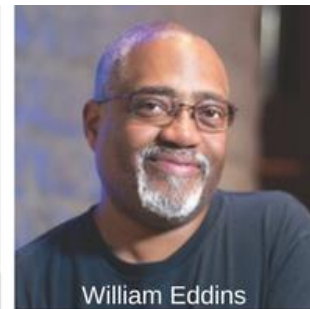
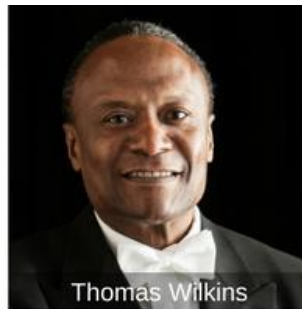
CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

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Robert Spano To Headline 2018-19 CIM Orchestra Season

Carolyn Kuan, Thomas Wilkins, William Eddins, Carlos Kalmar,
Stefan Sanderling, CIM alumna Mélisse Brunet and
Gerhardt Zimmermann Also Scheduled to Conduct



April 27, 2018 – Northeast Ohio native Robert Spano – Grammy Award-winning music director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Aspen Music Festival and School – joins seven internationally renowned guest conductors for Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra concerts during the 2018-19 school year, the school announced today.

“This conducting roster is the highest profile and most diverse in CIM’s distinguished 98-year history,” said **President & CEO Paul W. Hogle**. “We invited artists who will curate meaningful experiences for our incredibly talented current students and what is shaping up to be a breathtakingly accomplished incoming class next Fall. These men and women will bring to CIM’s podium a range of backgrounds, experiences and pedagogical approaches which will make for an engaging and exciting year of music-making.”

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The eight esteemed conductors, in order of appearance, are:

- CIM alumna **Mélisse Brunet**, Director of Orchestral Activities, Appalachian State University Hayes School of Music, and Finalist, 2018 Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview
- **Thomas Wilkins**, Music Director, Omaha Symphony; Principal Conductor, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra; and Henry A. Upper Chair of Orchestral Conducting, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music
- **William Eddins**, Music Director Emeritus, Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
- **Carlos Kalmar**, Music Director, Oregon Symphony, and Artistic Director, Grant Park Music Festival
- **Stefan Sanderling**, Chief Conductor, Symphony Orchestra of the Principality of Liechtenstein
- **Carolyn Kuan**, Music Director, Hartford Symphony Orchestra
- **Gerhardt Zimmermann**, Director of Orchestral Activities, University of Texas at Austin, Butler School of Music, and Music Director and Conductor, Canton Symphony Orchestra
- **Robert Spano**, Music Director, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and Music Director of the Aspen Music Festival and School

“To have secured this level of talent – conductors who lead artistically significant orchestras and hold prestigious positions at institutions of higher learning – for the 2018-19 school year is a real testament to the Cleveland Institute of Music’s reputation as an extraordinary training ground for orchestral players,” said **Chief Academic Officer & Dean of the Conservatory Dr. Judy Bundra**. “Following Carl Topilow’s retirement from CIM later this month after 37 distinguished years on the podium, we felt it was vital to offer our students the opportunity to work with some of today’s many other superb conducting talents. Each brings a fresh perspective and unique musical voice that will challenge and inspire our students to new heights.”

These eight guest conductors join a list of luminaries who have conducted and coached the CIM Orchestra in recent years, including JoAnn Falletta, Michael Tilson Thomas, Jahja Ling and Brett Mitchell.

CONCERT SCHEDULE

All concerts are free and open to the public; programs and ticket information will be announced at a later date.

Fri, Sep 14, at 8pm in CIM’s Kulas Hall	Mélisse Brunet, conductor
Wed, Sep 26, at 8pm in Severance Hall	Thomas Wilkins, conductor
Fri, Oct 12, at 8pm in CIM’s Kulas Hall	William Eddins, conductor
Fri, Nov 30, at 8pm in CIM’s Kulas Hall	Carlos Kalmar, conductor
Fri, Feb 1, at 8pm in CIM’s Kulas Hall	Stefan Sanderling, conductor
Wed, Feb 13, at 8pm in CIM’s Kulas Hall	Carolyn Kuan, conductor
Fri, Mar 29, at 8pm in CIM’s Kulas Hall	Gerhardt Zimmermann, conductor
Fri, Apr 12, at 8pm in Severance Hall	Robert Spano, conductor

ABOUT THE GUEST CONDUCTORS

Mélisse Brunet will begin her appointment as Interim Music Director of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic in 2018-19; she is also Director of Orchestral Activities at Appalachian State University Hayes School of Music and Music Director of the Appalachian Symphony Orchestra. Brunet is one of six conductors selected for the League of American Orchestras’ Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview

in April 2018, and for the 2017 Linda and Mitch Hart Institute for Women Conductors at The Dallas Opera. She graduated with academic honors from the University of La Sorbonne and from the highly selective Paris Conservatoire where she earned a Master's in Orchestral Conducting as well as five diplomas in Harmony, Counterpoint, Renaissance Counterpoint, Orchestration, and Musical Analysis. Brunet earned a professional studies certificate in orchestral conducting from CIM in 2012, studying with Carl Topilow, and a doctoral degree in conducting from the University of Michigan.

Thomas Wilkins is Music Director of the Omaha Symphony; a position he has held since 2005. Additionally, he is Principal Conductor of the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, and holds the Germeshausen Family and Youth Concert Conductor Chair with the Boston Symphony. In August of 2017 he assumed the Henry A. Upper chair of Orchestral Conducting at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Past positions have included resident conductor of the Detroit Symphony and Florida Orchestra (Tampa Bay), and associate conductor of the Richmond (VA) Symphony. He also has served on the music faculties of North Park University (Chicago), the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga, and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. A native of Norfolk, Va., Wilkins is a graduate of the Shenandoah Conservatory of Music and the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston.

William Eddins is Music Director Emeritus of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, former Principal Guest Conductor of the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra (Ireland), and a frequent guest conductor of major orchestras throughout the world, including the New York Philharmonic; St. Louis Symphony; Philadelphia Orchestra; the symphony orchestras of San Francisco, Boston and Baltimore; Berlin Staatskapelle; Berlin Radio Orchestra; Welsh National Opera; and Royal Scottish National Orchestra among many others. He has also conducted the orchestras of the Aspen Music Festival, the Hollywood Bowl, Chautauqua Festival, the Boston University Tanglewood Institute and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. A native of Buffalo, NY, Mr. Eddins attended the Eastman School of Music. He also studied conducting with Daniel Lewis at the University of Southern California and was a founding member of the New World Symphony in Miami, FL.

Carlos Kalmar has been Music Director of the Oregon Symphony since 2003. He is also the artistic director and principal conductor of the Grant Park Music Festival in Chicago. A regular guest conductor with major orchestras in America, Europe and Asia, Kalmar has led the Boston Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Minnesota Orchestra and New World Symphony, as well as the orchestras of Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Houston, Milwaukee, Nashville, Seattle and St. Louis. He has previously served as the chief conductor and artistic director of the Spanish Radio/Television Orchestra and Choir in Madrid as well as the music director for the Hamburg Symphony, the Stuttgart Philharmonic, Vienna's Tonkünstlerorchester and the Anhaltisches Theater in Dessau, Germany. Born in Uruguay to Austrian parents, Kalmar began to study conducting with Karl Oesterreicher at the Vienna Academy of Music at age 15.

Stefan Sanderling is currently Chief Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra of the Principality of Liechtenstein. Previous positions include music directorships of the Brandenburgische Philharmonie, Potsdam Opera, Philharmonic Orchestra and Staatstheater, Orchestre de Bretagne in France, The Florida Orchestra, Toledo Symphony and Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. Sanderling was Awarded the Kilenyi Medal of Honor (Bruckner Medal) by the Board of Directors of the Bruckner Society of America for his contribution to the works of Anton Bruckner in April 2012, which included the performance of all of Bruckner's symphonies with the Toledo Symphony over an 11 year period. He studied musicology at the University of Halle and conducting at the conservatory in Leipzig before leaving East Germany to continue his studies in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California.

Carolyn Kuan was appointed Music Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra in 2011. Her previous positions include Associate Conductor of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Artist-in-Residence at the New York City Ballet and Assistant Conductor for the Baltimore Opera Company. She has also performed with the symphonies of Baltimore, Detroit, Milwaukee, San Francisco, Seattle, and Toronto; the Florida and Louisville orchestras; the Hong Kong Philharmonic; the New York City and Royal Danish ballets; the Colorado Music Festival and Glimmerglass Festival; the New York City Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and Washington National Opera. From 2007 to 2012, she directed the annual San Francisco Symphony Chinese New Year concert. The first woman to be awarded the Herbert von Karajan Conducting Fellowship, Kuan graduated cum laude from Smith College, received a Master of Music degree from the University of Illinois, and a Performance Diploma from the Peabody Conservatory.

Gerhardt Zimmermann is Director of Orchestral Activities at the University of Texas at Austin, Butler School of Music, Music Director and Conductor of the Canton (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra, and former Music Director and Principal Conductor of both the Breckenridge Music Festival and the North Carolina Symphony. Zimmermann's energetic and vibrant performances have drawn invitations to appear on the podium with the Cleveland, Chicago, National, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, New Jersey, Syracuse, Rochester and San Antonio Orchestras. Other guest appearances include the Warsaw Philharmonic, the Orchestre Symphonique de Paris, the Toronto Symphony, the Calgary Philharmonic, Tulsa Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, Chicago's Grant Park and the Colorado Philharmonic. As comfortable in the pit as on the concert stage, Zimmermann has also conducted staged works of Mozart, Verdi, Strauss Jr., Puccini and Gershwin.

Robert Spano – conductor, pianist, composer and teacher – is known worldwide for the intensity of his artistry and distinctive communicative abilities. As Music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, this highly imaginative conductor is an approachable artist with the innate ability to share his enthusiasm for music with an entire community and concert hall. A fervent mentor to rising artists, he is responsible for nurturing the careers of numerous celebrated composers, conductors and performers, especially through his leadership of the Atlanta School of Composers. As Music Director of the Aspen Music Festival and School; he also holds a conducting residency with the Colburn School Orchestra in Los Angeles. Spano, a native of Conneaut, Ohio, has won six Grammy™ Awards with the Atlanta Symphony.

CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

The Cleveland Institute of Music, founded in 1920 with composer Ernest Bloch as the founding director, is one of just seven independent conservatories of music in the United States, one of three devoted exclusively to classical music performance and the only one nestled in America's heartland. CIM's campus – in the world-class center of innovation in healthcare, education and arts & culture known as University Circle – offers an incomparable environment for learning, study and artistic development.

CIM's graduates command the most celebrated and revered stages in the world as soloists, chamber musicians and ensemble members; compose meaningful, award-winning new repertoire; and are highly sought-after teaching artists, administrators and thought leaders. More than half of the members of The Cleveland Orchestra are connected to CIM as members of the faculty, alumni or both. The Institute's diverse talent tapestry uniquely positions CIM as the future of classical music.

All CIM students benefit from access to world-renowned visiting artists and conductors, intensive study with CIM's stellar faculty and the rich curriculum offered by CIM's partner Case Western Reserve University. CIM's Center for Innovative Musicianship (known as CIM²) embraces the school's mission to

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empower the world's most talented classical music students to fulfill their dreams and potential by offering extensive experiential opportunities for students to foster the practical skills necessary for a seamless transition into a professional career.

CIM is an integral part of Cleveland's arts community, presenting nearly 600 free performances and master classes on campus each year, and hundreds more at locations throughout the region, including Severance Hall, which is widely regarded as one of the world's finest concert halls. Students and faculty engage with partners including The Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Institute of Art and other cultural, educational and community organizations to create classical music that is as vibrant and varied as the city of Cleveland.

Explore cim.edu to learn more.

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Photos of the guest conductors are available here.

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Photo credits: Robert Spano by Andrew Eccles; Carolyn Kuan by Steven Laschever; Carlos Kalmar by Michael Jones; and Mélisse Brunet by Karen Almond.