

Chamber Music | Cincinnati

Chamber Music Cincinnati delays start of its 2020-21 Season until Spring 2021 due to COVID-19

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2020

Media Contact: John Spencer

spencercvg@gmail.com

513-324-9444

Chamber Music Cincinnati (“CMC”), the third oldest U.S. chamber music presenter, will delay the start of its 91st season until early 2021 due to COVID-19. Health conditions permitting, CMC will present a shortened season, with international artists to be announced, and will resume a full six concert schedule in the fall of next year.

CMC president Reuel Ash said that “difficult though this decision was, it was based solely on concern for the well-being of our audience members, and to give our more than 300 subscribers a degree of unpressured certainty about an issue of real concern.”

“Not only were we concerned about arranging appropriate, physically-distanced seating for hundreds of patrons in a 500 seat hall,” Ash continued, “getting our audience securely in and out of the three-level Memorial Hall before and after concerts, and to restrooms at intermissions, would be a real challenge.”

Governor DeWine has said that concerts and other gatherings that bring large numbers of people together would be the last events to be reopened. “Even assuming that the Governor’s order is lifted, postponing, not cancelling, is the prudent thing to do for the health of our audiences,” said immediate past president, James Englert, following a Wednesday virtual meeting of the CMC’s board. “Among other things, this will give us the chance to make an early assessment of the second COVID-19 wave widely anticipated by public health experts this fall and winter.”

“We are deeply disappointed to miss our fellow chamber music lovers and the amazing musicians we present – this fall. However, we were founded in 1929, an inauspicious time to launch. Today we are stronger than ever,” Ash noted, “and we can’t wait to resume our concerts next spring.”

Chamber Music Cincinnati’s last two concerts of the current six concert season were cancelled, the first by Memorial Hall closing its doors to the public, and the last by Ohio Governor Mike DeWine’s March, 2020 shelter-in-place order.

About Chamber Music Cincinnati

Chamber Music Cincinnati is the third oldest U.S. presenter of top rank international chamber music ensembles founded in 1929. Past artists include the Beaux Arts Trio, Dawn Upshaw, Jeremy Denk, Eighth Blackbird, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Christian Tetzlaff, plus the Amadeus, Cleveland, Emerson, Guarneri, Harlem, Juilliard, Kronos, Tokyo, and Vermeer string quartets. CMC has tripled its subscriber base to more than 300 in recent years. Concerts are presented at the acoustically superb, 550 seat Memorial Hall on Washington Park.