

OJAI MUSIC FESTIVAL

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OJAI MUSIC FESTIVAL UPDATES FUTURE MUSIC DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS

PATRICIA KOPATCHINSKAJA TO BE MUSIC DIRECTOR IN 2018



(OJAI CA) — Ojai Music Festival Artistic Director Thomas W. Morris announced today updated future Festival Music Director appointments. Violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja will take the helm as the 2018 Music Director for the 72nd Festival (June 7-10, 2018). Previously, she was scheduled to serve as Music Director in 2020. Ms. Kopatchinskaja replaces Esa-Pekka Salonen, who was originally slated as Music Director for the 2018 Festival. Mr. Salonen, who previously served as music director in 1999 and 2001, has withdrawn due to his composition schedule.

Following Patricia Kopatchinskaja, and as previously announced, Ojai will welcome Music Directors soprano/conductor Barbara Hannigan in 2019 and pianist Mitsuko Uchida in 2021. The Ojai Music Festival will name its 2020 Music Director later this spring.

Initial details for Ms. Kopatchinskaja's 2018 Festival will be announced in early June 2017.

For complete biographical information on upcoming Ojai Music Festival Music Directors, visit OjaiFestival.org.

Patricia Kopatchinskaja, 2018 Music Director

Violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja's versatility shows itself in her diverse repertoire, ranging from baroque and classical often played on gut strings, to new commissions and re-interpretations of modern masterworks. Ms. Kopatchinskaja first visited Ojai in April 2016 as a guest on the Festival's off-season "Open Ears" speaker series.

A celebrated collaborator, guest artist and chamber musician, Ms. Kopatchinskaja's current season highlights include the opening concerts of the new SWR Symphonieorchester with whom she performed Peter Eötvös' DoReMi Violin Concerto (with the composer himself conducting); an appearance with NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra as part of the inaugural performances of the new Elbphilharmonie concert hall in Hamburg; debuts with Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and with Gothenburg Symphonys. Continuing her regular collaboration with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, she appears with them in London and New York under Vladimir Jurowski. György Ligeti's Violin Concerto is a particular focus of Ms. Kopatchinskaja's current season; she will perform the work widely including with the Berliner Philharmoniker.

Ms. Kopatchinskaja serves as Artist in Residence at four major European venues and festivals: at the Berlin Konzerthaus; at the Lucerne Festival (where she will be *artiste étoile*); at the Wigmore Hall in London; and at the Kissinger Sommer Festival, and is an Artistic Partner with The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, performing regularly with the ensemble, both in Saint Paul and internationally.

A prolific recording artist, the last few seasons have seen a number of major releases by Ms. Kopatchinskaja. Her release for Naïve Classique featuring concerti by Bartók, Ligeti and Peter Eötvös won Gramophone's Recording of the Year Award in 2013, an ECHO Klassik Award and a 2014 Grammy nomination. Her recently released "Take Two" on Alpha has garnered critical acclaim worldwide.

The 71st Ojai Music Festival (June 8-11, 2017)

The [71st Ojai Music Festival](#) (June 8-11) celebrates diverse communities of music, artists, and collaborations in a weekend of stimulation and reflection. Music Director Vijay Iyer will be joined by 2015 Music Director Steven Schick, International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), Carnatic vocalist Aruna Sairam, flutist Claire Chase, and composer/percussionist Tyshawn Sorey – returning members of the Ojai Music Festival family. Mr. Iyer also introduces Ojai to master musicians from various backgrounds and communities: Brentano Quartet; violinist Jennifer Koh; vocalist/composer Jen Shyu; Vijay Iyer Trio; Vijay Iyer Sextet; Tyshawn Sorey Double Trio; tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain; saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa; trumpeter Wadada Leo Smith; and The Trio featuring Muhal Richard Abrams, George Lewis, and Roscoe Mitchell. Highlights of the 2017 Festival include the world premiere of Vijay Iyer's Violin Concerto, written for and performed by Jennifer Koh; the American premiere of Iyer's Emergence for trio and ensemble; RADHE RADHE: Rites of Holi with music by Iyer and film by Prashant Bhargava; the West Coast premiere of the opera Afterword by George Lewis; and Yet Unheard (world premiere of chamber version) by Courtney Bryan. *Ojai at Berkeley* follows the 2017 Ojai Music Festival and will take place from June 15-17 in Berkeley, CA. For more information visit [CalPerformances.org](#).

Vijay Iyer, 2017 Music Director

Composer-pianist Vijay Iyer is the Franklin D. and Florence Rosenblatt Professor of the Arts at Harvard University. He was named Downbeat Magazine's Jazz Artist of the Year for 2012, 2015, and 2016, and he received a 2016 US Artists Fellowship, 2013 MacArthur Fellowship, a 2012 Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, and a 2011 Grammy nomination. He has released twenty-one albums, including *A Cosmic Rhythm with Each Stroke* (ECM, 2016) in duo with legendary composer-trumpeter Wadada Leo Smith, named "Best New Music" by Pitchfork; *Break Stuff* (ECM, 2015) with the Vijay Iyer Trio, winner of the German Record Critics' Award for Album of the Year; the live score to the film *RADHE RADHE: Rites of Holi* (ECM, 2014) by filmmaker Prashant Bhargava; and *Holding it Down: The Veterans' Dreams Project* (Pi Recordings, 2013), his third politically searing collaboration with poet-performer Mike Ladd, named Album of the Year in the Los Angeles Times.

Mr. Iyer's compositions have been commissioned and premiered by Bang on a Can All-Stars, The Silk Road Ensemble, Ethel, Brentano Quartet, Brooklyn Rider, Imani Winds, American Composers Orchestra, International Contemporary Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra Leopoldinum, Matt Haimowitz, and Jennifer Koh. Mr. Iyer serves as Director of the Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music.

Thomas W. Morris, Artistic Director

Thomas W. Morris was appointed Artistic Director of the Ojai Music Festival starting with the 2004 Festival, and is committed to the Ojai Music Festival through 2021. As Artistic Director, he is responsible for artistic planning and each year appoints a music director with whom he collaborates on shaping the Festival's programming. Over his fourteen-year tenure, he has brought as music director Kent Nagano, Oliver Knussen, Robert Spano, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, David Robertson, 8th blackbird, George Benjamin, Dawn Upshaw, Leif Ove Andsnes, Mark Morris, Jeremy Denk, Steven Schick, and Peter Sellars. Over this period, audiences have increased, the scope and density of the Festival has expanded, the collaborative partnership Ojai at Berkeley with Cal Performances at UC Berkeley has started, and a comprehensive program of video streaming of all concerts has been instituted. Mr. Morris is recognized as one of the most innovative leaders in the orchestra industry and served as the long-time chief executive of both The Cleveland Orchestra and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He is currently active nationally and internationally as a consultant, lecturer, teacher, and writer. Mr. Morris was a founding director of Spring for Music and served as the project's artistic director. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Interlochen Center for the Arts, and he is also an accomplished percussionist.

Ojai Music Festival

From its founding in 1947, the Ojai Music Festival has created a place for groundbreaking musical experiences, bringing together innovative artists and curious audiences in an intimate, idyllic setting 80 miles northwest of Los Angeles. The Festival presents broad-ranging programs in unusual ways with an eclectic mix of rarely performed music, refreshing juxtapositions of musical styles, and works by today's composers. The four-day festival is an immersive experience with concerts, free community events, symposia, and gatherings. Considered a highlight of the international music summer season, Ojai has remained a leader in the classical music landscape for seven decades.

Series Passes for the 2017 Ojai Music Festival

2017 Festival series passes are available and may be purchased online at OjaiFestival.org or by calling (805) 646-2053. 2017 Ojai Music Festival series passes range from \$140 to \$860 for reserved seating and lawn series passes start at \$60. Single concert tickets will be available in spring 2017.

Directions to Ojai and Libbey Bowl, as well as information about lodging, concierge services for visitors, and other Ojai activities, are available on the Festival website. Follow Festival updates at OjaiFestival.org, Facebook ([Facebook.com/ojaifestival](https://www.facebook.com/ojaifestival)), and Twitter ([@ojaifestivals](https://twitter.com/ojaifestivals)).

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