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**LET'S PLAY NY PHIL  
BIENNIAL****May 23–June 11, 2016****May 24 and 31, 2016, at NATIONAL SAWDUST:**

**Violinist JENNIFER KOH To Curate and Perform in *SHARED MADNESS*  
Two Programs Featuring World Premieres of Short Works for SOLO VIOLIN,  
Together Presenting Music by More Than 30 Contemporary Composers  
Live Audio Streams**

As part of the NY PHIL BIENNIAL, violinist Jennifer Koh will curate and perform in *Shared Madness*, featuring short works for solo violin by more than 30 composers, who have gifted their music for the project, which taken together explore the shared creative space between composer and performer as well as virtuosity in the 21st century. The works will be premiered over the course of two programs at National Sawdust. The composers — “a community of colleagues and friends with whom I have worked over the years,” Koh says — will include:

**Samuel Adams (United States, b. 1985)**  
**Timo Andres (United States, b. 1985)**  
**Matt Aucoin (United States, b. 1990)**  
**Jean-Baptiste Barrière (France, b. 1958)**  
**Derek Bermel (United States, b. 1967)**  
**Lisa Bielawa (United States, b. 1968)**  
**Daníel Bjarnason (Iceland, b. 1979)**  
**David Bruce (United States, b. 1970)**  
**Chris Cerrone (United States, b. 1984)**  
**Anthony Cheung (United States, b. 1982)**  
**Zosha Di Castri (Canada, b. 1985)**  
**Bryce Dessner (United States, b. 1976)**  
**Philip Glass (United States, b. 1937)**  
**Michael Gordon (United States, b. 1956)**

**Mark Grey (United States, b. 1967)**  
**John Harbison (United States, b. 1938)**  
**Vijay Iyer (United States, b. 1971)**  
**Gabriel Kahane (United States, b. 1981)**  
**Phil Kline (United States, b. 1953)**  
**David Lang (United States, b. 1957)**  
**David Ludwig (United States, b. 1974)**  
**James Matheson (United States, b. 1970)**  
**Missy Mazzoli (United States, b. 1980)**  
**Eric Nathan (United States, b. 1983)**  
**Marc Neikrug (United States, b. 1946)**  
**Andrew Norman (United States, b. 1979)**  
**Christopher Rountree (United States, b. 1983)**  
**Kaija Saariaho (Finland, b. 1952)**

**Sean Shepherd (United States, b. 1979)**  
**Noam Sivan (Israel, b. 1978)**

**Augusta Read Thomas (United States, b. 1964)**  
**Julia Wolfe (United States, b. 1958)**

A new-music champion who regularly commissions and premieres new works for violin, Jennifer Koh began *Shared Madness* as a “thank you” to Elizabeth and Justus Schlichting, new-music advocates and commissioners whose generosity helped her purchase the instrument on which she will perform during these recitals and who agreed to accept music in lieu of funds as repayment for the violin. With numerous composers donating their time and music, *Shared Madness* exemplifies the charitable community of artists and supporters. Live audio of both programs will be streamed on WQXR’s Q2 Music. Q2 Music’s Helga Davis will host the concert and audio streams.

“*Shared Madness* celebrates the support that exists within the artistic community and also seeks to encapsulate the intensity of the creative process shared between composer and performer. I am humbled and moved by the incredible generosity of my fellow artists in an effort to help me with what initially seemed to be an impossible task: ensuring that I could continue to perform on my instrument,” Jennifer Koh says. “As an extension of the idea of community that created *Shared Madness*, I plan to pay this generosity forward by bringing *Shared Madness* to primary schools that serve opposite ends of the socio-economic spectrum, in an effort to bring together kids of diverse backgrounds through music and shared creativity, with the kids learning to compose works to be performed by their peers.”

*Shared Madness* follows Jennifer Koh’s *Bach and Beyond* project, a six-year, three-recital series that explores the history of the solo violin repertoire from J.S. Bach’s Sonatas and Partitas to works by modern composers and new commissions; *Bridge to Beethoven*, which paired Beethoven’s ten sonatas for violin and piano with new works; and *Two x Four*, which coupled J.S. Bach’s Double Concerto for Two Violins with a double concerto by Philip Glass and new concerto commissions by Anna Clyne and David Ludwig.

In her most recent appearance with the Philharmonic, in January 2013, Jennifer Koh performed Lutosławski’s *Chain 2: Dialogue for Violin and Orchestra*, led by Lorin Maazel.

*Shared Madness* is co-presented by the New York Philharmonic and National Sawdust.

### **Related Events**

- **Live Audio Stream**

Live audio of both programs will be streamed on WQXR’s Q2 Music. Q2 Music’s Helga Davis will host the concert and audio streams.

- **Play Date**

All audience members attending the NY PHIL BIENNIAL concerts on May 24 and 31 are invited to the NY PHIL BIENNIAL Play Dates, post-concert meet-ups with composers and performers over cocktails, at National Sawdust.

- **#biennialist**

The New York Philharmonic invites audience members to be a #biennialist. The five attendees who attend the most NY PHIL BIENNIAL events and post about it on social media will win a free pair of tickets to the final concert, featuring the New York Philharmonic conducted by Music Director Alan Gilbert, June 11 at David Geffen Hall. Additional prizes and offerings for #biennialists will be offered; follow the New York Philharmonic on its social media channels ([instagram.com/nyphilharmonic](https://www.instagram.com/nyphilharmonic) and [twitter.com/nyphil](https://twitter.com/nyphil)) for more information.

### **About the NY PHIL BIENNIAL**

A flagship project of the New York Philharmonic, the **NY PHIL BIENNIAL** is a wide-ranging exploration of today's music that brings together an international roster of composers, performers, and curatorial voices for concerts presented both on the Lincoln Center campus and with partners in venues throughout the city. The second NY PHIL BIENNIAL, taking place May 23–June 11, 2016, will feature diverse programs — ranging from solo works to a chamber opera to large scale symphonies — by more than 100 composers, more than half of whom are American; present some of the country's top music schools and youth choruses; and expand to more New York City neighborhoods. A range of events and activities will engender an ongoing dialogue among artists, composers, and audience members. Partners in the 2016 NY PHIL BIENNIAL include National Sawdust; 92nd Street Y; Aspen Music Festival and School; Interlochen Center for the Arts; League of Composers/ISCM; Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts; LUCERNE FESTIVAL; MetLiveArts; New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival; Whitney Museum of American Art; WQXR's Q2 Music; and Yale School of Music. For complete information about the 2016 NY PHIL BIENNIAL, see [press release](#).

### **Artist**

**Jennifer Koh** is recognized for intense, commanding performances, delivered with dazzling virtuosity and technical assurance. With an impassioned musical curiosity, she is forging an artistic path of her own devising, choosing works that both inspire and challenge. She is dedicated to performing the violin repertoire of all eras from traditional to contemporary, believing that the past and present form a continuum. *Musical America's* 2016 Instrumentalist of the Year, Ms. Koh has performed with leading orchestras worldwide and appears frequently at major music centers and festivals as a prolific recitalist. This season, she makes debuts with the Pittsburgh Symphony and RAI National Symphony Orchestra in Italy, and returns to the Buffalo Philharmonic, Milwaukee Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Helsinki Philharmonic, and Deutsche Radiophilharmonie. She performs Anna Clyne's violin concerto, composed for her, with the Cincinnati Symphony, Princeton Symphony, and the BBC Philharmonic (in its U.K. premiere). She also partners with pianist Shai Wosner in *Bridge to Beethoven*, a recital series that explores the impact Beethoven has had on a diverse group of composers and musicians by pairing Beethoven's complete violin sonatas with new works by Anthony Cheung, Vijay Iyer, and Andrew Norman. A major highlight of Jennifer Koh's season is the launch of *Shared Madness*, her project as part of the NY PHIL BIENNIAL that presents World Premieres of short works for solo violin by more than 30 of today's most celebrated composers who have generously gifted their music for the project. Ms. Koh regularly records for the Cedille label. Her recent albums include *Bach and Beyond Part*

*I* and *Bach and Beyond Part 2*, based on her recital series of the same name; *Two x Four*, an album of double violin concertos with Jaime Laredo and the Curtis 20/21 Ensemble; *Signs, Games + Messages* with Mr. Wosner; and Grammy-nominated *String Poetic* with pianist Reiko Uchida. Born in Chicago of Korean parents, Jennifer Koh made her debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at age 11 and won the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, Concert Artists Guild Competition, and an Avery Fisher Career Grant. She has a bachelor of arts in English literature from Oberlin College and studied at the Curtis Institute of Music, where she worked with Jaime Laredo and Felix Galimir. She is founder and artistic director of MusicBridge, a non-profit organization promoting collaborations among artists of diverse disciplines and styles. Ms. Koh made her Philharmonic debut in July 2006 on the Concerts in the Parks, conducted by Xian Zhang, and she most recently appeared on a subscription program for Lutosławski's *Chain 2: Dialogue for Violin and Orchestra* led by Lorin Maazel in January 2013.

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Major support for the NY PHIL BIENNIAL is provided by **The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, and The Francis Goelet Fund**. Additional funding is provided by the **Howard Gilman Foundation** and **Honey M. Kurtz**.

### **Tickets**

Tickets for this performance are \$25. Tickets may be purchased online at [nyphil.org](http://nyphil.org) or by calling **(212) 875-5656**, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 5:00 p.m. Sunday. To determine ticket availability, call the Philharmonic's Customer Relations Department at **(212) 875-5656**. Ticket prices subject to change.

For press tickets, contact Ron Gaskill at (718) 643-9052 or [ron@blakezidell.com](mailto:ron@blakezidell.com).

For more information about all NY PHIL BIENNIAL events, visit [nyphil.org/biennial](http://nyphil.org/biennial).

**WORLD PREMIERE OF JENNIFER KOH'S *SHARED MADNESS*  
Co-Presented by the New York Philharmonic and National Sawdust**

National Sawdust  
80 North 6th Street  
Williamsburg, Brooklyn

Tuesday, May 24, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 31, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Concerts will be streamed live on WQXR's Q2 Music, available at [q2music.org](http://q2music.org)

Play Date with composers and performer following both concerts at National Sawdust

Jennifer Koh, violin  
Helga Davis, host

*Shared Madness*: two programs that together present the World Premieres of more than 30 short works for solo violin, which taken together explore the shared creative space between composer and performer as well as virtuosity in the 21st century. Composers include Samuel ADAMS, Timo ANDRES, Matt AUCOIN, Jean-Baptiste BARRIÈRE, Derek BERMEL, Lisa BIELAWA, Daniél BJARNASON, David BRUCE, Chris CERRONE, Anthony CHEUNG, Bryce DESSNER, Zosha DI CASTRI, Philip GLASS, Michael GORDON, Mark GREY, John HARBISON, Vijay IYER, Gabriel KAHANE, Phil KLINE, David LANG, David LUDWIG, James MATHESON, Missy MAZZOLI, Eric NATHAN, Marc NEIKRUG, Andrew NORMAN, Christopher ROUNTREE, Kaija SAARIAHO, Sean SHEPHERD, Noam SIVAN, Augusta Read THOMAS, and Julia WOLFE.

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**ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

*Photography is available for the NY PHIL BIENNIAL at [nyphil.org/newsroom/1516/biennial](http://nyphil.org/newsroom/1516/biennial)  
or by contacting the Communications Department at (212) 875-5700; [pr@nyphil.org](mailto:pr@nyphil.org).*