

# **DECODA**



As an artist-led collective, **Decoda** seeks to create a more compassionate and connected world through music—thoughtfully curating outstanding performances of live chamber music, facilitating creative community projects, and training the next generation of musical artists to rethink and reimagine their role in society.



## OUR MISSION

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## OUR STORY

Decoda was founded in 2012 by musicians who first collaborated as members of Ensemble Connect, a two-year fellowship program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute in partnership with the NYC Department of Education. Its work as an ensemble has grown out of this collective training, which focused on developing skills as exemplary performers, dedicated teachers, and passionate advocates for music in communities around the world.



# ABOUT DECODA

Recognized for their virtuosic performances and creative community engagement, Decoda is comprised of 30 internationally renowned chamber musicians. At home in New York, Decoda presents annual subscription performances at Carnegie Hall each season. The 2021-2022 Season includes collaborations with the composers of ICEBERG New Music, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory in Singapore, The Juilliard School, The Tianjin-Juilliard School, Vassar College, and a continuing virtual concert series for healthcare staff at Mount Sinai Hospital. The Decoda Chamber Music Festival continues at Lawrence University, offering 30 young pre-professional artists the opportunity to work alongside Decoda faculty through an immersive two-week summer festival.

Decoda's past engagements include performances at the Barbican (London), Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany), Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Festival (UAE), Við Djúpið Festival (Iceland), Carnegie Kids @ Suntory Hall (Tokyo), National Center for the Performing Arts (Mumbai), Mainly Mozart Festival, Bay Chamber Concerts, Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Caramoor Music Festival, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and a three-week tour of South Africa. Music for Transformation, Decoda's social justice initiative in correctional facilities, brings creative songwriting projects to help empower vulnerable and disenfranchised voices-work that has been widely recognized by the White House, CNN, the Huffington Post, the Associated Press, the Washington Post, and Billboard Magazine.



# TESTIMONIALS & PRESS

**Clive Gillinson**  
**Executive and Artistic Director of Carnegie Hall**

*Our appointment of Decoda as the first ever Affiliate Ensemble of Carnegie Hall recognizes the quality of its work, which reflects so many of the values held by Carnegie Hall, including exceptional performances and a strong commitment to education and community programs.*



**Amy Anderson**  
**Artistic & Education Director Emeritus of Chamber Music**  
**Monterey Bay**



*I want to reiterate what a very special concert you gave us Saturday night. (Decoda's) ensemble playing blew me away – we have a LOT of wonderful ensembles here, but none has surpassed this level of interconnectedness and subtlety in ensemble playing. What a huge gift it was!*



# TESTIMONIALS & PRESS

## The New Yorker

*The musicians of Decoda, for whom versatility is a watchword, put together a unique program of incisive musical portraits...*

THE NEW YORKER



## The Washington Post

*If you doubt that within every person resides a divine spark, listening to prisoners express their joys and sorrows — ever-luminous even in this dark place — may cause you to reconsider.*

## Playbill

*Decoda artists are not just performers, but also teachers and activists who care about the sustainability of their projects and training the next generation of musicians.*

PLAYBILL

# TESTIMONIALS & PRESS

**The New York Times**

*Refreshing in the extreme... Technical mastery.*

**The New York Times**



**Time Out NY**

*Some of the brightest young classical musicians in the world...*

**The Seattle Times**

*Making beautiful music... in a collaborative process.*

**The Seattle Times**



# OFFERINGS

As an artist-led collective, Decoda designs meaningful musical experiences for our audiences and community partners – offering outstanding performances of live chamber music, creative community projects, as well as high quality workshops and masterclasses to inspire young artists of tomorrow.

- **CHAMBER MUSIC** Outstanding performances of live chamber music in traditional and non-traditional settings with flexible instrumentation (strings, winds, brass, piano, percussion), ensemble size (trios to small chamber orchestra) and repertoire (baroque to contemporary)
- **CREATIVE COMMUNITY PROJECTS** Multi-session composition, songwriting, and collaborative performance workshops for both musicians and non-musicians within a specific community.
- **INTERACTIVE PERFORMANCES** Artfully scripted performances, tailored to a specific audience and designed around Decoda concert repertoire with significant audience participation and engagement.
- **COMMUNITY EVENTS** Community events with Decoda take place within communities gathered by schools, neighborhoods, hospitals, elder care facilities, correctional facilities, shelters, and more.
- **WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS** Lessons, coachings, composer readings, master classes, open rehearsals, lectures and other activities for musicians of all levels – on topics such as: entrepreneurship, arts advocacy, community engagement, and chamber music skills, and more.

# MEDIA

**VIRTUAL WINNIPEG NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL**

[LINK](#)

**DECODA AT CARAMOOR: INTERACTIVE PERFORMANCE**

[LINK](#)

**DECODA CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL: PROMO**

[LINK](#)

**PIANO QUARTET NO. 2 (BRAHMS)**

[LINK](#)

*For more video samples, visit*

[www.youtube.com/decodamusic](http://www.youtube.com/decodamusic)



[PHOTO GALLERY](#)



# PROJECT PARTNERS (selection)





# OUR PEOPLE

## Leadership Team

Brad Balliett, Co-Artistic Director  
Claire Bryant, Co-Artistic Director  
Milad Daniari, General Manager  
Felix Reyes, Development & Communications  
Manager  
David Kaplan, Social Media Manager

## Board of Directors

Craig Laurie, Chair  
Sam Hagen, Treasurer  
Joseph Jones  
Catherine Gregory, *ex-officio*  
ToniMarie Marchioni, *ex-officio*

## Advisory Board

Eric Booth  
Clea Conner  
Jeremy Geffen  
Polly Kahn  
Suki Sandler  
Neil R. Scheier, M.D.

## Musicians

[View roster](#)





# CONTACT



/decodamusic



@decodamusic



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Email: [info@decodamusic.org](mailto:info@decodamusic.org)



**CLARINET, CELLO, PIANO**

**(3 musicians)**

**ANDREA CASARRUBIOS** Seven

**DEBUSSY** Premiere Rhapsodie

**PAUL DEAN** Suite for clarinet & cello

—

**BRAHMS** Trio in A minor, Op. 114

**BASSOON, HORN, CELLO, BASS**

**(4 musicians)**

**REENA ESMAIL** Varsha

**EVAN PREMO** Belonging

**TELEMANN** Sonata in F minor

—

**BRAD BALLIETT** Shorebirds

**SDC: Canonic Variations on an Irish Folk Tune**

**FLUTE, BASSOON, VIOLIN, CELLO, PIANO**

**(5 musicians)**

**VALERIE COLEMAN** Maombi Asante

**SARAH KIRKLAND SNIDER** Parallel Play

**STRAVINSKY/ RAMEAU** Dance Suite (arr. Catherine Gregory)

—

**SAINT-SAËNS** Sonata in G major, Op. 168

**DVOŘÁK** Trio in E minor, Op. 166  
“Dumky”



**FLUTE, OBOE, CLARINET, BASS CLARINET, BASSOON,  
HORN**

**(6 musicians)**

**HILDEGARD Quia Felix Puericia (arr. Brad Balliett)**

**JANÁČEK Mladi**

**CAROLINE SHAW given**

—

**VALERIE COLEMAN Rubispheres**

**GILAD COHEN The Last Battle of King Sorrow**

**FLUTE, CLARINET, BASSOON, VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO,  
BASS, PIANO**

**(8 musicians)**

**ALICE JONES Dark is a way**

**VALERIE COLEMAN Revelry**

**CHICK COREA Selections from 'Children's Songs'  
(arr. Decoda)**

—

**BRAHMS Quartet in G minor, Op. 25**

**XIAO BAO HE When We Are Poor**