LECTURE-RECITAL: BACH CELLO SUITE NO. 4

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 - 1:30pm
Brechemin Auditorium
FREE

Faculty cellist Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir presents six Tuesday afternoon lecture-recitals in 2019-20—one for each of the six cello suites of J.S. Bach. She performs the complete works at Meany Hall over two consecutive evenings, May 21 and 22, 2020.

LECTURE-RECITAL DATES

- Oct. 8 (Suite 6)
- Nov. 19 (Suite 5)
- Dec. 3 (Suite 4)
- Feb. 11 (Suite 3)
- Feb. 25 (Suite 2)
- April 7 (Suite 1)

Lecture-Recitals are Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in Brechemin Auditorium. Admission is free.

SÆUNN THORSTEINSDÓTTIR

Icelandic-American cellist Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir enjoys a varied career as a performer, collaborator and educator. She has appeared as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Iceland Symphony, among others, and her recital and chamber music performances have taken her across the US, Europe and Asia. Sæunn has performed in many of the world’s prestigious halls including Carnegie Hall, Suntory Hall, Elbphilharmonie, Barbican Center and Disney Hall and the press have described her as “charismatic” and “riveting” (NYTimes) and praised her performances for their “emotional intensity” (LATimes).

An avid chamber musician, she has collaborated in performance with Itzhak Perlman, Mitsuko Uchida, Richard Goode and members of the Emerson, Guarneri, St. Lawrence and Cavani Quartets and has performed in numerous chamber music festivals, including Santa Fe, Seattle, Stellenbosch, Orcas Island, Bay Chamber, Prussia Cove and Marlboro, with whom she has toured. She is cellist of the Seattle-based group, Frequency, and cellist and founding member of Decoda, The Affiliate Ensemble of Carnegie Hall.

In the 2018-2019 season, Sæunn makes her debut with the BBC and Seattle Symphonies performing the award-winning cello concerto, Quake, written for her by Páll Ragnar Pálsson. Chamber music appearances take her to Carnegie Hall in New York City, Glasgow, and Los Angeles, as well as recitals in Reykjavik, Seattle and Chicago following the Spring 2019 release of “Vernacular”, her recording of Icelandic solo cello music on the Sono Luminus label.
Highlights of the 2017-2018 season included the US premiere of Betsy Jolas' *Wanderlied* and the Hong Kong premiere of Sofia Gubaidulina's *Canticle of the Sun*, as well as recitals and chamber music appearances in New York City, San Francisco, Seattle, Glasgow, London and Reykjavík. In addition to collaborating with Daniel Bjarnason on his award-winning composition *Bow to String*, Sæunn enjoys close working relationships with composers of our time such as Páll Ragnar Pálsson, Halldór Smárason, Melia Watras, Jane Antonia Cornish and Þuríður Jónsdóttir.

Sæunn has garnered numerous prizes in international competitions, including the Naumburg Competition and the Antonio Janigro Competition in Zagreb. She received a Bachelor of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music, a Master of Music from The Juilliard School and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from SUNY Stony Brook. Her teachers and mentors include Richard Aaron, Tanya Carey, Colin Carr and Joel Krosnick.

Born in Reykjavík, Iceland, Sæunn serves on the faculty of the University of Washington in Seattle, teaching cello and chamber music. For more information, please visit [www.saeunn.com](http://www.saeunn.com).

People Involved:  [Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir](mailto:saeunn@uw.edu)
Event Type:  [Faculty Performances](https://music.washington.edu/events/2019-12-03/lecture-recital-bach-cello-suite-no-4)  [Lectures](https://music.washington.edu/events/2019-12-03/lecture-recital-bach-cello-suite-no-4)
Related Areas of Study:  [Strings](https://music.washington.edu/events/2019-12-03/lecture-recital-bach-cello-suite-no-4)