



PERFORMING ARTS ORGANIZATION

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Press contact: Jonah Gallagher, Managing Associate, Del Sol String Quartet
(630) 815 9363 Jonah@delsolquartet.com

The Del Sol Performing Arts Organization is proud to announce the [Del Sol Fast Forward Fund](#), a shared grant of \$25,000 to assist new music ensembles and composers in the Bay Area while we are all unable to perform. In addition to supporting the Del Sol Quartet, the recipients are the Friction Quartet, The Living Earth Show, Splinter Reeds, ZOFO Duet, Matthew Cmiel, Theresa Wong, and Pamela Z. The Fast Forward Fund is supported by a longtime donor of Del Sol.

The fund is looking towards a time when we can all come together and celebrate the return of full audiences to the concert hall for a festive gala, where all recipients will share a stage together.

While this grant is unable to support the many other wonderful musicians of our rich and vibrant Bay Area new music community, we are honored to be able to recognize the work and talent of these ensembles and composers. We encourage everyone to support your favorite local artists during this time.

The Del Sol Quartet members will be highlighting the musicians receiving awards from the Fast Forward Fund in online interviews over the next couple months.



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More about Del Sol Quartet

Del Sol began as a thought on the night shift at Fermilab. Charlton Lee loved the cutting edge of physics research – always looking for the next discovery, pushing boundaries. But he missed the way music connected people, building community by communicating in ways physics never would. What if he could bring that scientific passion for exploration to a string quartet?

Twenty-six years later, Del Sol is still sharing music that brings out the endorphins. Music that asks why not?

Fascinated by the feedback loop between social change, technology, and artistic innovation, the San Francisco-based ensemble is a leading force in 21st century chamber music - whether introducing Ben Johnston's microtonal Americana at the Library of Congress, taking Aaron Garcia's gun-violence memorial to the streets of the Mission District, exploring Andean soundscapes with Gabriela Lena Frank and traditional musicians, or collaborating with Huang Ruo and the anonymous poets who scratched their words into the walls of the Angel Island Immigration Station during the years of the Chinese Exclusion Act. The current Del Sol lineup, marked by the arrival of violinist Sam Weiser alongside mainstays Kathryn Bates and Ben Kreith, bring a fresh energy, freedom, and precision to the group.

Recognized as a “vigorous champion of living composers”, Del Sol has premiered hundreds of works by composers including Terry Riley, Gabriela Lena Frank, Frederic Rzewski, Ben Johnston, Chinary Ung, Mason Bates, Tania León, Erberk Eryilmaz, Theresa Wong, Reza Vali, Mohammed Fairouz and Peter Sculthorpe.

Many of these works are included on Del Sol's nine critically-acclaimed albums. PopMatters praised Del Sol's “unfettered mastery” on Terry Riley's Dark Queen Mantra (2017, Sono Luminus). Scrapyard Exotica (2015) elicited this rave in the New York Times. “I could be wrong, but I'm guessing it's been a while since you've rocked out to a string quartet recording. See if your foot can stay still once you put on this funky disc of rhythmically infectious (if often warped) music played by the adventurous Del Sol String Quartet.”

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