Sarah McElravy

Biography 2022/23

Canadian violinist/violist Sarah McElravy is a versatile and captivating artist appearing frequently as both a soloist and chamber music performer. She is one of the very few that has mastery of both violin and viola and enjoys a highly regarded career with performances that take her all over the globe.

In the 2022/23 season, Ms. McElravy will perform the Walton Viola Concerto in her debut with the Nordwestdeutsche Philharmonie and conductor Jonathan Bloxham as well as in her return to the Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra in Norway. She will also be appearing alongside her duo partner and husband violinist and conductor, Julian Rachlin in a series of double concertos with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Turku Philharmonic Orchestra, and Orquestra Simfonica del Valles.

As a soloist, Sarah McElravy has appeared with many major orchestras and highlights of recent seasons include the Helsinki Philharmonic, Prague Philharmonia, Warsaw Philharmonic, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Trondheim Symphony Orchestra, Dortmunder Philharmoniker, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Moscow Philharmonic, Bayerischer Rundfunk Chamber Orchestra, Innsbruck Philharmonic, Naples Philharmonic, and Sofia Philharmonic among many others. She performed the UK premiere of the Penderecki Double Concerto for Violin and Viola with Julian Rachlin and the Royal Northern Sinfonia conducted by Alexander Joel, and Strauss’ Don Quixote with Boris Andrianov and the Russian National Orchestra under the baton of Dmitri Jurowski. She has also performed with the Moscow Soloists conducted by Yuri Bashmet, as well as the Slovenian Philharmonic, Nice Philharmonic, and Moscow Virtuosi. Ms. McElravy made her Japan debut with the Royal Northern Sinfonia at the “La Folle Journée” Festival.

As a chamber musician, 2022/23 highlights include performances at the Herbstgold Festival in Austria with Bach‘s Goldberg Variations for string trio as well as a performance of the The Music Critic with the legendary actor John Malkovich. She has performed chamber music in such prestigious venues as the Vienna Musikverein and Konzerthaus, Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Suntory Hall and has taken part in the Prague Spring Festival, La Jolla SummerFest, Oslo Chamber Music Festival, Caramoor Festival, Sion Festival, Kronberg Academy, and Schloss Elmau. She has collaborated with many artists including Vilde Frang, Janine Jansen, Denis Kozhukhin, Itamar Golan, Andreas Ottensamer, Mischa Maisky, Eckhardt Runge, Boris Andrianov, and Daniel Müller-Schott.

A founding member of the award-winning Linden String Quartet, hailed as “polished, radiant and incisive” by The Strad Magazine, she has toured extensively throughout North America and Europe. The ensemble served as Fellowship Quartet-in-residence at Yale University, Apprentice Quartet at the Cleveland Institute of Music, and gave teaching residencies at the Universities of Iowa and Idaho, Caramoor Festival, and Detroit Chamber Music Society amongst others. The quartet gave frequent masterclasses, lectures, and educational outreach performances across the United States and Canada. The Linden Quartet received Gold medal and Grand prize at the 2009 Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition, 2009 Coleman National Chamber Ensemble Competition, the 2010 Hugo Kauder Competition, the ProQuartet Prize at the 9th Borciani String Quartet Competition, and a prestigious New York Concert Artists Guild management contract.

In 2014, Ms. McElravy founded the Chamber Music Society México, an organization dedicated to presenting world-class chamber music in México City. As the Artistic Director, she brought leading North American artists to perform and provide educational programs for talented young Mexican musicians.

Ms. McElravy plays on a 1791 Ferdinando Gagliano violin and a 1785 Lorenzo Storioni viola on loan to her courtesy of the Dkfm. Angelika Prokopp Privatstiftung in Vienna, Austria.●