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## Artist Biographies

Oboist and native New Yorker **Allison Rubin Bitz**, received her BM from The Juilliard School (NY Philharmonic Scholarship recipient) and her MM from Yale (Merit Scholarship recipient). She has performed in prestigious concert venues such as Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall, Alice Tully Hall and Merkin Concert Hall. Although classically trained, Ms. Bitz is an extremely versatile artist, having started her own klezmer band called the Klezmerites, and performed and recorded with the likes of jazz legend saxophonist Gerry Mulligan, guitarist Simon Wynberg, and Tokyo String Quartet's first violinist Martin Beaver. Ms. Bitz recently recorded the soundtrack for the film "Peace, Love and Misunderstanding" featuring Catherine Keener, Jane Fonda, and Chace Crawford (2011 release). She has performed with the NJ Pops Symphony, the Bronx Chamber Orchestra, the Esopus Chamber Orchestra, Kairos Consort, and the Woodstock Chamber Orchestra. Allison is the interim oboist for Madera Vox for the 2011-2012 season.

Bassoonist **Cornelia McGiver** works regularly as a musician in the New York and New Haven areas. Most recently she has performed with the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra New England, Live Music Project, Canterbury Choral Society, Trinity Chorale, Cappella Cantorum and numerous others. Woodwind coaching positions include working with Joan Tower at Bard College; and she also teaches privately. Cornelia holds a BA from Bard College, an MS Ed, and is a licensed and certified Speech-Language Pathologist. Her training as a bassoonist includes eight years of study with Kim Laskowski of the New York Philharmonic. Her latest obsession is learning folk tunes on the accordion.

**Sylvia Buccelli** is a founding member of several chamber music ensembles in the Northeast as well as a frequent recital partner of instrumentalists and vocalists. Sylvia is on the faculty of the State University of New York at New Paltz and holds an MM from Manhattan School of Music as a student of Artur Balsam. Her work can be heard on the Albany and Parnassus record labels. In the summer, Sylvia participates in Music on Monhegan, a chamber music series she originated with colleagues off the coast of Maine. To decompress from the note-wrangling aspects of pianism, she pursues a wide variety of athletic outdoor activities from running and hiking to kayaking and mountain biking.

Originally from Utica, New York, **Dave Gluck** is Professor of Studio Composition at Purchase College, State University of New York. As a founding member of Rhythm & Brass, he has toured the globe as a percussionist, appearing with the Detroit Symphony, Boston Pops, Youngstown Symphony and at festivals such as Interlochen and Bands of America, while also serving as a visiting artist and clinician at hundreds of schools and universities. An acclaimed composer and arranger, his works have been recorded on Koch, d'Note and Skinny Tie Records and featured in Jazz Player magazine, BET Network and NPR's Fresh Air, among others. A former member of the Dallas Brass and a founder of the chamber ensemble Madera Vox, David is a Yamaha, Zildjian, and Innovative Percussion performing artist. Most recently, as a featured percussionist, David recorded with Bernie Williams on the CD, Moving Forward for which the live performance was broadcast on ESPN and the YES network. He received his Bachelor's degree in music from Ithaca College, was a teaching assistant at the University of North Texas and earned his MFA in Studio Composition from Purchase College. Rhythms of the Game: The Link Between Musical and Athletic Performance, a new book co-authored by Gluck with Grammy Award-nominated producer and musician Bob Thompson and former New York Yankee and fellow musician Bernie Williams, is set to be released in July 2011.

Soprano and award-winning actor **Kelly Ellenwood** has performed principal roles on and off Broadway, on stages in every state across the US, and on film & television. Awards include the Gold Medal and First Prize at the Savannah (GA) Music Festival's "American Traditions Competition" singing America's music - Gospel, Blues, Jazz and the American Musical Theatre. She received her BM from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and earned an MM from the University of Illinois

Champaign-Urbana where she coached with legend John Wustman. Kelly is particularly proud to call herself a "Community Organizer" and between her music, raising a family and volunteer work is happily and perpetually overextended.