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## RAVINIA FESTIVAL AND WFMT CLASSICAL RADIO LAUNCH CONCERT BROADCAST SERIES

Eight-concert series kicks off on August 6 with a performance by  
acclaimed pianist Kevin Cole

Series to air on WFMT and wfmt.com Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.

**HIGHLAND PARK, IL** — Ravinia Festival today announced a partnership with **WFMT classical radio** to bring music fans a brand-new concert series airing every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. CDT on 98.7 WFMT and streaming on wfmt.com. The new series kicks off August 6 with pianist **Kevin Cole** performing American Songbook staples, from George Gershwin's "Liza (All the Clouds'll Roll Away)" to Cole Porter's "Too Darn Hot" and a fantasy on Irving Berlin's film tunes, from the festival's Bennett Gordon Hall. The **Lincoln Trio** will follow on August 13 with Stacy Garrop's *Silver Dagger* and movements by Beethoven, Brahms, and Haydn, among other piano trios.

"Even though we can't be together in our concert halls this summer, we still want to bring music from Ravinia to our fans. With the help of our WFMT friends, we are bringing listeners some of the best musicians right to their homes," said Ravinia President and CEO **Welz Kauffman**. "We hope this series brings you closer to those Ravinia nights we miss so much."

The series is composed of eight 40-minute concerts recorded in Ravinia's Bennett Gordon Hall. Concert highlights include a specially curated program by mezzo-soprano **Michelle DeYoung** airing August 20 titled "A Few of My Favorite Things," which ranges from Schumann's "Mondnacht" to "Send in the Clowns" from Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* and other songs DeYoung finds comfort in during these uncertain times. **Chicago Chorale** will cap the month on the August 27 broadcast.

The **Pacifica Quartet** will headline the September 3 broadcast, performing Turina's *La oración del torero* plus movements from Shulamit Ran's *Glitter, Shards, Doom, Memory* and Beethoven, Shostakovich, and George Walker quartets. On September 10, soprano **Amanda Majeski** will pair up with baritone **Edward Parks** to perform Wolf's Three Mignon Lieder and Vaughan Williams's *Songs of Travel* respectively as well as duet on "If I Loved You" from Rodgers's *Carousel* and Schumann's "So wahr die Sonne scheint." For the penultimate airing on September 17, baritone **Quinn Kelsey** will bring a program of art songs and arias, including his signature Verdi repertoire. The series closes with a September 24 broadcast of soprano **Michelle Areyzaga** with Kauffman at the piano.

Before being regularly heard on international broadcasts, recordings, and concert and theater stages, several of these featured artists bolstered their careers through studies and performances at Ravinia's Steans Music Institute, including DeYoung ('95), who has returned to RSMI as a faculty artist, as well as Areyzaga ('01), Pacifica violist Mark Holloway ('07), Majeski ('07), and Parks ('09).

"WFMT appreciates the opportunity to bring our audiences these new and stellar performances from Ravinia," said **George Preston**, General Manager of WFMT. "We know they are going to enjoy these programs featuring the work of this outstanding lineup of artists, especially during this time when in-person performances have been curtailed."

### ABOUT WFMT

WFMT is one of the world's most respected classical music radio stations, available on-air at 98.7WFMT, online at [wfmt.com/listen](http://wfmt.com/listen), and on the WFMT app. WFMT showcases superlative programs, concerts, and live events – from

the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Grant Park Music Festival, the Metropolitan Opera, Ravinia Festival, and many more. WFMT is also a leading producer and syndicator of a diverse selection of outstanding musical series, including *Exploring Music with Bill McGlaughlin*, the Beethoven Network, and the Jazz Network. Connect with WFMT on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

## **ABOUT RAVINIA**

Ravinia, located just north of Chicago, is North America's oldest and most diverse music festival, presenting over 140 different events every summer, including the annual residency of the nation's finest orchestra, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. As a nonprofit organization, Ravinia provides arts programs for over 85,000 people in communities within Cook and Lake Counties through its Reach Teach Play education programs. Ravinia's Steans Music Institute is a summer music conservatory which awards 60–70 fully paid fellowships each year to the most talented young professional musicians from around the world to work with an esteemed faculty and the headliners who frequent the festival. For information, visit [Ravinia.org](http://Ravinia.org).

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

WFMT Schedule: [www.wfmt.com/schedule/](http://www.wfmt.com/schedule/)

Ravinia welcomes all festival fans to follow, connect, and interact online with [@RaviniaFestival](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#), as well as its blog, [backstage.ravinia.org](http://backstage.ravinia.org).