

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2022

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Muzzy Ridge Concerts Series Opens Aug. 20 and 21 in Searsmont with Muhly and Sirota

The inaugural weekend of the second annual Muzzy Ridge Concerts in Searsmont on Saturday, Aug. 20 and Sunday, Aug. 21 will feature world-renowned composer and performer Nico Muhly and internationally known violist Nadia Sirota. The intimate chamber music concerts were launched by Searsmont composer Robert Sirota last year,

The concerts take place in the Searsmont, Maine studio where Robert Sirota has composed much of his music over the past 35 years. Each concert will be approximately 60 minutes long with no intermission. Indoor seating is limited to 40 patrons, with additional outdoor seating on the covered patio for another 15 people. Tickets for each Muzzy Ridge Concerts performance are now on sale at www.robertsirota.com/muzzy-ridge-concerts.

During the performances on Friday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m., and repeating Saturday, Aug. 21, 3 p.m., Muhly and Nadia Sirota will perform Muhly's music for piano and viola.

Nico Muhly is a 42-year-old American composer whose orchestral music, opera and stage works, chamber and sacred music have been performed at the Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony and King's College, Cambridge. He has collaborated with Paris Opéra Ballet and New York City Ballet choreographers and with singer Paul Simon. He has also scored films, worked with vocal artists, and created site-specific pieces for London's National Gallery and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Nadia Sirota is a violist who has performed as soloist with orchestras around the world and whose career also includes chamber music, producing, curation, and broadcasting. She is a member of the chamber sextet yMusic, and has appeared on albums and concert stages with Bjork, David Bowie The National and Paul Simon. She received a Peabody Award for her podcast Meet the Composer, which she co-created, co-produced, and hosted. She is the New York Philharmonic's Creative Partner, creative associate at The Juilliard School and artist-in-residence at UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance.

During his fifty-year career, composer and Muzzy Ridge Concerts Artistic Director Robert Sirota's works have been performed by orchestras across the US and Europe by ensembles such as Alarm Will Sound, Sequitur, yMusic, Chameleon Arts, and Dinosaur Annex; by the Chiara,

American, Telegraph, Ethel, Elmyr, and Blair String Quartets; and at the Tanglewood, Aspen and Cooperstown festivals. His recent commissions include music for the American Guild of Organists, the American String Quartet, Alarm Will Sound, the Naumburg Foundation, yMusic, and arrangements for Paul Simon. Sirota retired as President of the Manhattan School of Music in 2012 after previously serving as Director of the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University.

Muzzy Ridge Concerts will present a second pair of chamber music performances on Saturday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 28, 3 p.m.

Photos and Photo Captions:



Nico Muhly and Nadia Sirota will perform August 20 and 21 at Muzzy Ridge Concerts in Sears mont.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JENSEN ARTISTS



A full house attends a 2021 Muzzy Ridge Concerts chamber music performance in Sears mont.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MICKEY SIROTA, MUZZY RIDGE CONCERTS

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August 11, 2022

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Muzzy Ridge Concerts Series Concludes Aug. 27 and 28 in Searsmont with Jonah Sirota, Regina Brady and Victoria Sirota

The artists performing during the final weekend of Muzzy Ridge Concerts on Saturday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 28, 3 p.m., are violist Jonah Sirota, oboist Regina Brady and pianist Victoria Sirota. They will perform J. S. Bach's Concerto in C minor for oboe and violin, August Klughardt's "Schilflieder (Reed Songs)" for oboe, viola and piano and "COVID OBOE VIOLA OVID" by Jonah Sirota.

The intimate chamber music series launched by Searsmont composer Robert Sirota will take place in the Searsmont, Maine studio where Robert Sirota has composed much of his music over the past 35 years. Each concert will be approximately 60 minutes long with no intermission. Indoor seating is limited to 40 patrons, with additional outdoor seating on the covered patio for another 15 people. Tickets for each Muzzy Ridge Concerts performance are now on sale at www.robertsirota.com/muzzy-ridge-concerts.

Jonah Sirota is a multi-talented composer, producer and violist who scores and records music for TV, film, and video games, writes concert music and performs as a soloist and chamber musician. Violist for the recently-disbanded Chiara Quartet for nearly 20 years, he has performed or arranged music for the 2021 Oscar-nominated animated short "If Anything Happens I Love You...," the 2021 Sundance film "Wild Hearts" and major cinematic releases including "Mulan" and "The Mandalorian." He has performed works for the viola by Nico Muhly, Paola Prestini, Arthur Joseph McCaffrey, Valgeir Sigurðsson, Robert Sirota, Kurt Knecht, and his own works. Jonah teaches viola at Cal State University Fullerton and gives viola and composition master classes and residencies across the country.

Regina (Gigi) Brady lives near Los Angeles and "loves midcoast Maine." She is adept on both the oboe and English horn and is a sought-after performer on both coasts. She has appeared with the LA Opera orchestra in collaboration with the Hamburg Ballet, a chamber music performance live-to-film at the Wende Museum of the Cold War in Culver City, an English horn solo in an upcoming pop release, and the premiere performance of an Opera NFT at NFT LA. Gigi performs chamber music in a duo with her partner, violist and composer Jonah Sirota. At Oberlin College and Conservatory, she majored in oboe performance and neuroscience.

Victoria Sirota, who lives in Searsmont, is a pianist, concert organist, and an Episcopal priest

who occasionally serves at Belfast's St. Margaret's Church. She is the Chaplain of the Association of Anglican Musicians and former Chaplain of the American Guild of Organists. She is a recognized authority on the music of Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, has given recitals in the United States and Europe, and taught at Yale Divinity School and Institute of Sacred Music and Boston University. After nine years as Canon Pastor and Vicar at The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine in New York, she retired as Rector of Saint John's Episcopal Church in Yonkers, New York. She often collaborates with her husband, composer Robert Sirota.

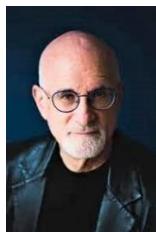
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Photo Captions:

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF JENSEN ARTISTS



(l. to r.) Jonah Sirota (viola), Victoria Sirota (piano) and Regina (Gigi) Bailey (oboe) will perform August 27 and 28 at Muzzy Ridge Concerts in Searsmont.



Robert Sirota, composer and Artistic Director of Muzzy Ridge Concerts in Searsmont.