

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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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](http://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 Searsport.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JENSEN ARTISTS



A full house attends a 2021 Muzzy Ridge Concerts chamber music performance in Searsport.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF MICKEY SIROTA, MUZZY RIDGE CONCERTS