

28th Annual  
**NEW DIRECTIONS CELLO FESTIVAL**

2023 VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

*Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11am-7pm EST via Zoom*

11:00am-11:50am

***Agustin Uruburu: Basic Tools for Improvisation***

This workshop will explore various ways in which cellists can explore playing over simple chord changes. Starting simply with one note per chord, the group will explore various tools and ideas which can be utilized and developed to create balance in one's improvisation and allow cellists to "see" the chords on the fingerboard.

12:00-12:50pm

***George Crotty: An Improviser's Approach to Ornamentation***

Left Hand ornaments and right hand extended techniques can open the door to a spectrum of sonic minutiae and add depth and character to one's improvisation and creative language. In this workshop, cellists will explore ornaments from celtic, arabic, hindustani and western traditions and way in which they can be utilized creatively.

1:00-1:50pm

***Guest Presenter: TBA***

*Workshop description coming soon!*

2:00-3:00pm – BREAK

3:00-3:50pm

***Patricia Santos: Playing and Singing: Making the Rhythmic and Textural Most of Yourself***

In this workshop cellists will get a thorough walk through of how to get from simple cello settings (drones, block chunking, etc.) to more complicated grooves, then ultimately, to hold two completely independent rhythms across the cello and voice. Cellists will be shown how to slightly offset the vocal rhythm from the cello rhythm to create more motion and texture as a single performer, "filling the grid" – and how this helps highlight when they travel together on the beat.

4:00-4:50pm

***Mia Pixley (with Andrew Carruthers): The Ripple Cello***

In this workshop, we will join Mia and Andrew from his actual workshop in California as they discuss origin and making of the Ripple Cello (featured in Strings magazine), a truly 21st century cello that pushes the boundaries of traditional instrument making.

5:00-5:50pm

***Jeremy Harman: An Introduction to Improvising over Non-Diatonic Chord Changes***

*Workshop description coming soon!*

6:00-7:00pm

***Open Mic for Virtual Participants***

28th Annual  
**NEW DIRECTIONS CELLO FESTIVAL**  
2023 IN-PERSON SCHEDULE

Friday June 23<sup>rd</sup>

**1:30-3:30pm** - Arrival and registration window.

**3:30-5:00pm** - Welcome Session & WORKSHOP BLOCK

***Kely Pinheiro: The Art of Playing Brazilian Music***

In this workshop cellists will learn the art of playing Brazilian music with contemporary techniques. This workshop will focus on innovative ways to incorporate rhythms, melodies, and harmonies from Brazilian music into one's cello playing. With hands-on exercises and demonstrations, cellists will explore extended bow techniques and create unique textures and sounds in their playing.

**5:30-7:00pm** – Dinner

**7:00pm** – Concert #1 @ BOMBYX Center for Arts and Equity  
***Vincent Courtois - Kely Pinheiro – Augustin Uruburu***  
BOMBYX Center for Arts and Equity

Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>

**7:15-8:30am** – Breakfast

**9:30-10:45am** WORKSHOP BLOCK (select one!)

***Kely Pinheiro: Pizzicato Approaches to Accompanying and Comping***

In this workshop cellists will explore new ways to use pizzicato, such as arpeggios, broken chords, and syncopated rhythms, to create bass lines and chords that add depth and complexity to their cello playing and performance.

***Patricia Santos: Playing and Singing: Making the Rhythmic and Textural Most of Yourself***

In this workshop cellists will get a thorough walk through of how to get from simple cello settings (drones, block chunking, etc.) to more complicated grooves, then ultimately, to hold two completely independent rhythms across the cello and voice. Cellists will be shown how to slightly offset the vocal rhythm from the cello rhythm to create more motion and texture as a single performer, “filling the grid” – and how this helps highlight when they travel together on the beat.

**11:00am-12:15pm** WORKSHOP BLOCK (select one!)

***George Crotty: An Improviser's Approach to Ornamentation***

Left Hand ornaments and right hand extended techniques can open the door to a spectrum of sonic minutiae and add depth and character to one's improvisation and creative language. In this workshop, cellists will explore ornaments from celtic, arabic, hindustani and western traditions and way in which they can be utilized creatively.

***Mia Pixley: To Loop or Not to Loop?***

This workshop will explore live looping as a cellist and the various ways in which it can be utilized. Cellists will explore the choice of when to loop to enhance a composition or song (and when not to!) as well as some additional loop work-arounds to grow your live sound.

**12:15-1:30pm** – Lunch

**2:00-3:15pm** WORKSHOP BLOCK (select one!)

***Augustin Uruburu: Basic Tools for Improvisation***

This workshop will explore various ways in which cellists can explore playing over simple chord changes. Starting simply with one note per chord, the group will explore various tools and ideas which can be utilized and developed to create balance in one's improvisation and allow cellists to "see" the chords on the fingerboard.

***Vincent Courtois: Improvising a Solo Piece***

What are some of the tools we can use when Improvising in a solo context? Deep listening, the blending of conscious and unconscious sound, the embrace of both stage fright and pleasure will be discussed and practiced along with notions of simplicity, posture, and accessing one's inner world through improvisation.

**3:30-5:30pm** – Cello Ensemble rehearsal – *All participants are welcome to join!*

**5:30-7:00pm** – Dinner

**7:00pm** - Concert #2 @ BOMBYX Center for Arts and Equity

***Mia Pixley – George Crotty – Patricia Santos***

Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>

**7:15-8:30am** – Breakfast

**9:30am-10:45am** WORKSHOP BLOCK (select one!)

***Mia Pixley: Finding and Owning Your Personal Groove***

This workshop will focus on how to reach into and feel oneself when creating a song or composition, and how to stay in that feeling when performing. This workshop will explore feeling into the body, the soul, and the psyche, and bringing all of that juice into one's musical ideas to get that deep musical and emotional resonance, and how to keep that nice vibe when performing.

***George Crotty: Global Grooves and Polyrythms***

This workshop will focus on rhythm!! Cellists will explore cumulative rhythms, polyrythms, limb independence, playing over grooves, and developing a stronger and deeper time feel.

**11:00am-12:15pm** WORKSHOP BLOCK (select one!)

***Vincent Courtois: Improvising a Duo Piece***

Improvising in a duo setting presents a different set of challenges than improvising solo. The ideas of sharing musical material and choices, playing with or playing against one another, controlling one's listening, trust, tuning, quality of sound, clarity and more will be both discussed and put into practice in a very hands-on way.

***Patricia Santos: Songwriting/Storytelling at the Cello***

Songwriting is an extremely vast topic, but in this workshop, cellists will examine creating a cello setting to help serve the individual song. This will often start as a simple chord progression and develop into a thoughtfully composed piece.

**12:15-1:30pm** Lunch

**2:00-3:15pm** WORKSHOP BLOCK (select one!)

***Augustin Uruburu: Piston Melodic Curves Applied to Improvisation***

*Workshop description coming soon!*

***Guest Presenter TBA***

*Workshop description coming soon!*

**3:30-4:30pm** Cello Ensemble recording session

**4:30-5:30pm** Open Mic for Participants

**5:30-7:00pm** Dinner