



# COMPASS

## Program

- Valse b.150 Op. post. ----- Geri Amori - *Piano*  
*by Frédéric Chopin*
- “Joy Is Such a Human Madness: ----- Jamie Johnson - *Reader*  
 the Duff Between Us”  
*from The Book of Delights by Ross Gay*
- Three and a half of these ----- Pascual Araujo - *Guitar*  
*by Michael Barrett Donovan*
- Am Camin (At the Fireside) ----- Shinichiro Inaji - *Piano*  
 Kinderszenen Op. 15, No. 8  
*by Robert Schumann*
- Prelude No. 1 & 2 ----- Mari Hwang - *Piano*  
 from 3 Preludes and Fugues Op. 16  
*by Clara Schumann*
- Horse Behavior ----- AKaiser - *Poet*  
*by AKaiser, translated by Ae Hee Lee*  
 Ae Hee Lee - *Poet*
- Seis Milonga ----- Pascual Araujo - *Guitar*  
*by Ernesto Cordero*
- Sonata KV 570 3rd Movement ----- Mari Hwang - *Piano*  
*by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*
- Midwest Equinox ----- Ae Hee Lee - *Poet*  
 Hyu :: In-Between  
 El Milagro :: Edges
- Achat Sha'alti ----- Francesca Leo - *Flute*  
*by Paul Schoenfield*
- Oblivion ----- Pascual Araujo - *Guitar*  
*by Astor Piazzolla, arranged by Fred Vasquez*
- Poem Selections ----- John Kenney - *Poet*
- Sonata Hob XVI:50 3rd Movement ----- Mari Hwang - *Piano*  
*by Franz Joseph Haydn*

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## Profiles



### Gerri Amori

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As a child who danced down the street belting show tunes, and taught by neighbors and nuns to read music which she played on an old upright, music was Geri's friend. Sad or glad; good or bad. It didn't matter. But when encountered by a teacher who told her that she had no business playing the piano because she wasn't serious enough, she closed the lid, brokenhearted, and walked away. Forty-six years later, approaching retirement, she decided to play again as "exercise" for arthritic hands. The path from the hands to the heart was short, and now, three years later, Geri has her friend. She is not a performer. She is a passionate lover of music. She will share her love with you tonight. Geri studies with Tracy Stuchbery and Paul Orgel. She is also an active member of Madeline Bruser's Live Online Workshop.



### Pascual Araujo

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Pascual Araujo is a classical guitarist/arranger hailing from Barranquilla, Colombia based in Queens, NY. He is a champion of the Latin America/Iberian guitar repertoire and art song. His vision is to bring to light the wonderful music of Latin American/Iberian composers that has been obscured over time. In addition to playing Latin American/Iberian guitar music Pascual is an advocate of the experimental/new music genre, having premiered works from modern composers that push the boundaries of harmony and structure. Pascual has performed in renowned music halls such as Weill Hall, Stanley H. Kaplan penthouse at Lincoln Center and Gilder Lehrman Hall at the Morgan Library museum.

Pascual received his Bachelors degree in music education January 2020 from CUNY Queens College and teaches full time at Cadenza Music Center located in Bayside, Queens. He currently studies with renowned new music composer and classical guitarist William Anderson.



### Ae Hee Lee

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Born in South Korea and raised in Peru, Ae Hee Lee received her MFA from the University of Notre Dame, where she was winner of the 2016 Billy Maich Academy of American Poets Prize. She is currently a PhD candidate in Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her poetry has been published at Narrative, Pleiades, Denver Quarterly, and The Journal among others, and she is the author of two poetry chapbooks: *Bedtime || Riverbed* (Compound Press, 2017) and *Dear Bear*, (Platypus Press, forthcoming 2021).

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### Mari Hwang

A multifaceted NYC-based musician Mari Hwang has performed across the U.S. as a pianist, harpsichordist, and conductor.

Ms. Hwang has collaborated in world premieres with composers including Pedro Ramos, Brian Haller, and James Stepleton. She has frequently performed for psychiatric patients at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, a concert series in Brooklyn Heights, “Bach in the Heights,” as a harpsichordist, and Uptown Ballet Academy in Inwood, since the school’s second Spring Annual Recital. And recently participated in Transformative Piano Masterclass Series led by Madeline Bruser, the author of “The Art of Practicing.” Additionally, she has appeared on The Voice of America about entrepreneurship in classical music.

Previously, Ms.Hwang was a staff accompanist at Suzuki Music School in Westport, CT, and a pianist for the Association to Benefit Children’s music program at Cassidy’s Place in the Upper East Side and Echo Park Graham School in Harlem.

Ms. Hwang moved from a sunny suburb of Los Angeles to attend Manhattan School of Music, where she studied with the late Mr. Zenon Fishbein and received a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance.

Currently she is a collaborative pianist at Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division and has a private teaching studio.



### Jamie Johnson

Since retiring from the corporate world in 2001, Jamie has moved on to far more interesting things. For about 3 years, she was Executive Director of School of Hope, helping to build schools for girls in Afghanistan—and she got to experience Afghanistan first-hand. In 2006, she founded Art Connects New York which, in its 13-year history, placed hundreds of original artworks in over 40 social services throughout all 5 boroughs of New York City.

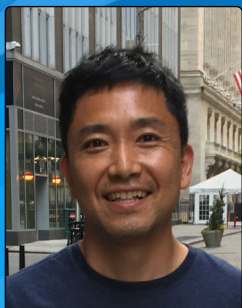
Since 2007, Jamie has had two key foci: 1) making the artwork in her late husband, William S. Dutterer, available to the public, and 2) creating artwork of her own. For the Dutterer estate she has published a book and has had some success showing, selling, and placing work in various public institutions (<http://www.WilliamDutterer.com>). As for her own work—her leather body-wear has been shown in numerous exhibitions and her Covid-19 project, a quilt made of Dutterer’s studio clothes, is coming along just fine.

She reads widely because she loves to “hear” the wisdom of others.



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## Profiles



### Shinichiro Inaji

Born in Kyoto Japan and living in NY with husband and a dog, working as Graphic Designer / Translator. Shin loves piano and has been learning on his own since he was child, and finally started the long-sought piano lesson under teacher & friend Louis Yungling in Brooklyn since 2018.

Shin is very happy and appreciative to be a part of the Compass Concerts as a performer and also proud to contribute to the growth of the concert as a designer and promoter.

Thanks to Louis for all his efforts and creativity for producing this event!



### AKaiser

AKaiser is the Pushcart Prize nominated author of <glint>, co-winner of the inaugural Milk and Cake Book Prize ([www.milkandcakepress.com](http://www.milkandcakepress.com)). Her poem, Shape Shift, was long-listed for the 2020 Fish Publishing Poetry Prize. Her work has placed as finalist for awards such as the North American Review James Hearst Poetry Prize and the Eggtooth Editions Chapbook Prize. Poems and photos can also be found in Harbor Review, Lavender Review, Mudfish, NewSquare, and The Rumpus. She is currently translating the collected works of Catalan poet Anna Gual, and writing the biography and translating the work of the first Iberian translator of Whitman, into Catalan, transatlantic urbanista, Cebrià Montoliu. In February, she was Fellow at the ATLAS Translation Workshop and in April, she curated and participated in events for the Sant Jordi 2020 Festival. These videos, including her reading of Horse Behavior, the subject of her essay, The layered life of a poem, can be viewed at: <https://www.santjordiny.org/program>.

Photo credit:  
Beowulf Sheehan



### John Kenney

John Kenney is the New York Times bestselling author of the poetry collections Love Poems for Married People, Love Poems for People with Children, and Love Poems for Anxious People, and the novels Talk To Me and Truth In Advertising, which won the Thurber Prize for AmericanHumor. He has worked for many years as a copywriter. He has also been a contributor to The New Yorker Magazine since 1999. He lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Love Poems for Anxious People and all of John's books can be purchased on Amazon.

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## Profiles



### Francesca Leo

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Francesca Leo is a cutting edge flutist, entrepreneur and educator. She has given solo and chamber performances internationally in Italy and France and has performed as a soloist with the New Albany Symphony Orchestra and the Manhattan School of Music Chamber Sinfonia. A Michigan native, she has won top prizes in many competitions including the Manhattan School of Music Eisenberg-Fried Concerto Competition, the Central Ohio Flute Association Young Artist and Collegiate Division Competitions, the Lima Symphony Young Artist Concerto Competition, the New Albany Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition and the MTNA Solo Division Competition.

A fierce advocate of contemporary music, Francesca has appeared as a soloist at the Society for Composers International (SCI) and the Society for Electroacoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS) Conferences, where her performance won a recording spot on the 2018 Music From SEAMUS, vol. 27 CD. She is the flutist and a founding member of the Quintilia Ensemble, a quintet committed to pushing the boundaries of contemporary chamber music. Francesca has participated in the premieres of many new works in solo, chamber, orchestral and operatic settings, including the Mid-American premiere of Kaija Saariaho's opera *Émilie*. She is currently working with numerous composers to premiere new repertoire for solo flute.

As an orchestral musician, Francesca has performed under the baton of renowned conductors such as Roderick Cox, George Manahan, and Leonard Slatkin. She specializes in performing arts health and is the founder of [www.playingwithoutpain.com](http://www.playingwithoutpain.com), an award-winning interactive web resource designed to provide collegiate music students with information to treat and prevent performance-based injury. She has presented her research at various institutions across the United States including the Manhattan School of Music, West Virginia University, Ohio Northern University, among others. Francesca currently serves as a board member on the National Flute Association Performance Health Care Committee and is a Social Media Assistant for the Art of Practicing Institute.

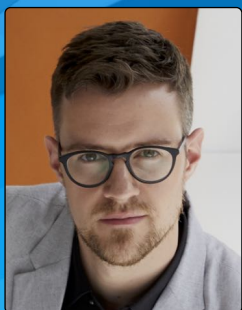
Francesca holds a masters degree in Classical Flute Performance from the Manhattan School of Music as a former Joseph F. McCrindle scholarship recipient and a bachelors degree in Music Performance and Entrepreneurship from Bowling Green State University. Francesca's primary teachers and mentors include Linda Chesis, Conor Nelson and Jeffrey Zook.

<http://www.francescaleoflute.com>; <http://www.playingwithoutpain.com>  
Instagram: @francescaleoflute; @playingwithoutpain



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## Profiles



### Nick Revel

Nick Revel is the founding violist of PUBLIQuartet, whose Billboard Chart-topping 2019 album *Freedom and Faith* was nominated for a GRAMMY™ Award for Best Chamber Music Performance. PUBLIQuartet served as string quartet in residence for the 2016/2017 Metropolitan Museum of Art's season and has been presented by the Late Show with Stephen Colbert, Carolina Performing Arts, Washington Performing Arts, The National Gallery, Carnegie Hall, Dizzy's Coca Cola Club, the Detroit Jazz Festival, and the Newport Jazz Festival.

As a composer, Nick's 2019 Carnegie Hall Play USA commission *The Fear* was selected as a finalist in the 2020 Golden Hornets String Quartet Smackdown. He tours his 2019 self-produced and recorded *Letters to My Future Self* (Centaur Records) in live electroacoustic shows across the USA. Nick's 2017 commission *In DayDream* for viola and guitar was premiered in Carnegie Hall and was a winner of Indiana State University's Music Now Call for scores in 2018.

As an educator, Nick has created the scale and arpeggio play-along method, *DragonScales*, which can be found on iTunes and Amazon. He is artistic and executive director of the Norwalk Youth Chamber Ensembles co-creator of the New York String Studio and currently serves on the board of the Seabury Academy of Music and the Arts in Norwalk, CT.

Original electroacoustic works: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRv9m7OdO0c>



### Louis Yungling

Louis teaches private piano lessons online (and hopefully soon again in person in Brooklyn Heights). He graduated high school from the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan and studied piano at Arizona State University. In 2005 and 2006 he produced and performed in *The Dreams Fulfilled* concerts, two benefit concerts at Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall to raise money for The High School for Leadership & Public Service and the Globe Institute of Technology respectively. His 4 years of study with New York piano teacher and author of *The Art of Practicing*, Madeline Bruser, led him to refine his teaching approach to be completely student-centered and strongly informed by his meditation practice. He is a practitioner in the Shambhala Buddhist tradition.

This concert series is the fruition of seeds planted almost nine years ago by my teacher Madeline Bruser. Her commitment to helping musicians play free from tension and stage fright, and her work with meditation and contemplative exercises inspires me every day. The idea that audiences could meditate together before a concert came from her. For me these COMPASS concerts are an expression of my gratitude for all the gifts she has passed on to me.

I am thrilled to share this journey with you and these very talented, generous and courageous artists. Thank you Shin, Mari, AKaiser, Geri, Francesca, John, Jamie, Ae Hee, Pascual, and Nick for sharing your gifts and creating a beautiful program of music and poetry.



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Poem

## Horse Behavior

*by AKaiser, translated by Ae Hee Lee*

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I was recounting a dream. We were in an illegal house, not  
ours, but not exactly not not ours.

You pretended to be the brother of someone you resembled so  
little, we worried the unexpected  
visitors wouldn't believe us. I was recounting a dream. The  
house was illegal, but no matter.

No alarm had been set, I wanted to take advantage of Enantyum,  
see how I would sleep, limitless.

I was recounting a dream and we were in a dream and the horse  
was there, too. With a wind-caught  
tail upturned like the one in Jerusalem photographed by someone  
with connections to the New York

Times, the same one Wisdom had said resembled Pegasus, wings  
poised to take flight. I was recounting

a dream and we were in the dream and you, you were trying to keep  
us safe from intruders and the horse,

elated with play, showed me how it could cut loose of its stall  
of a house, neigh and buck outside.

I was recounting a horse who came galloping back with nothing  
to show for it but unabated breath

and enrapt surge of muscle. I was. A dream. We were. The horse.

**Madeline Bruser**

<https://artofpracticing.com>

**The Art of Practicing Institute:**

<https://artofpracticing.com/summer-program>