



valley of the moon music festival

TANYA TOMKINS & ERIC ZIVIAN, DIRECTORS

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Cellist and co-Founder and Artistic Director of the Valley of the Moon Music Festival, **Tanya Tomkins** is equally at home on historical and modern instruments. Passionate about chamber music, Tanya has been featured in recitals and at chamber music festivals across the United States, Canada, and Europe, and is currently a member of the Left Coast Chamber Ensemble. Tanya also recorded the complete Bach Cello Suites, performing them at venues including New York's Le Poisson Rouge, Vancouver's Early Music Society, Santa Fe's Pro Musica, and the Library of Congress. For many years, Tanya was principal cellist and a frequent soloist for both San Francisco's Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and the Portland Baroque Orchestra.

Tanya is now devoting more time to mentoring the next generation of musicians. The experiences of musical friendship and mentoring from her years in Holland studying with cellist, Anner Bijlsma are what inspired Tanya, together with VMMF co-Director Eric Zivian, to create the Apprenticeship, Laureate and Emerging Artists Programs at the Valley of the Moon Music Festival. Tanya has mentored young musicians in master classes at Yale, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and through her frequent appearances as a guest teacher at Juilliard's Historical Performance Department.

Eric Zivian is a pianist, fortepianist, and composer. He is founder and Music Director of the Valley of the Moon Music Festival in Sonoma, specializing in Classical and Romantic music on period instruments. In recent years, Eric performed the Mozart C minor Concerto with the Portland Baroque Orchestra and the Beethoven Choral Fantasy with the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra.

He has also soloed with the Santa Rosa Symphony and the Toronto Symphony, among others. Eric has performed extensively on fortepiano since 2000. At the height of the pandemic, Eric livestreamed all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas on period pianos. Eric's compositions have been performed widely in the United States and in Tokyo, Japan. He was awarded an ASCAP Jacob Druckman Memorial Commission to compose an orchestral work, *Three Character Pieces*, which was premiered by the Seattle Symphony in March 1998. Eric received degrees in piano and composition from Curtis, Juilliard, and the Yale School of Music. He studied piano with Gary Graffman and Peter Serkin and composition

with Ned Rorem, Jacob Druckman, and Martin Bresnick. He attended the Tanglewood Music Center as a performer and composer.

Praised by the Seattle Times as “Simply marvelous” and Taiwan’s Liberty Times for “astonishingly capturing the spirit of the music,” violinist **Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu** enjoys a versatile career as a soloist, chamber musician, and educator throughout North America, Europe and Asia. Cindy has collaborated in concerts with renowned artists such as Yefim Bronfman, James Ehnes, Lynn Harrell, Leila Josefowicz, Cho-Liang Lin, Midori, Thomas Quasthoff, Yuja Wang, and members of the Alban Berg, Emerson, Guarneri, Miró, and Tokyo string quartets at prominent venues such as the Kennedy Center, Library of Congress, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and festivals such as Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival, Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, La Jolla Summerfest, Marlboro Music Festival, Music@Menlo, and Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival.

She has also collaborated as a guest violist with the Dover, Orion, and Shanghai quartets. Cindy is a recipient of many awards including the Milka Violin Artist Prize from the Curtis Institute of Music, and third prize at the International Violin Competition of David Oistrakh. She has taught at the Thornton School of Music of the University of Southern California, and curated programs for the Da Camera Society in Los Angeles as the Artistic Partner. She is currently the Music Director of New Asia Chamber Music Society, the Director of Chamber Music at the Hidden Valley Music Seminars, and the creator of Sunkiss’d Mozart. Cindy plays on a 2021 Samuel Zygmuntowicz violin and a 2015 Stanley Kiernoziak viola.