

Carol Ou, DMA  
cellist/teacher/conductor

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## Performing Experiences

### **Carpe Diem String Quartet Cellist, 2012-present**

Management: Great Lakes Performing Artists Associates

### **Buswell-Ou Duo, 1996-present**

World-wide recital and concerti performances with violinist, James Buswell

### **Other Chamber Music Collaborators:**

Midori	András Schiff	Kim Kashkashian	Laurence Lesser
Hilary Hahn	Robert Levin	Sam Rhodes	Timothy Eddy
Pascal Rogé	Malcolm Bilson	Roger Tapping	Noah Bendix-Balgley

### **Music Festivals:**

Marlboro Music Festival  
Australian Festival of Chamber Music  
Heifetz International Music Institute  
Cremona International Music Academy and Festival  
Nevada Chamber Music Festival  
Bennington Chamber Music Conference

### **Soloist with Orchestras:**

National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine, Kiev, Ukraine  
Orquestra Sinfonica de Teatro Argentino, La Plata, Argentina  
State Symphony Orchestra of Russia, Voronezh, Russia  
Louisiana Philharmonic, New Orleans, LA  
Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, Baltimore, MD  
Jupiter Symphony, New York, NY  
Contemporary Ensemble of Taipei, Presidential Palace, Taiwan

### **Solo and Chamber Music Recitals:**

Jordan Hall, Boston, MA  
Carnegie Weill Hall, NY  
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, MA  
National Gallery of Art, Washington DC  
Symphony Space, New York City, NY  
Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, Voronezh, Russia  
National Concert Hall, Taipei, Taiwan  
National Concert Hall, Kiev, Ukraine

**World Premieres:**

Hsiao Tyzen's Cello Concerto, Taipei, Taiwan (1991)  
Daniel Pinkham's Sonata for violin and cello, Jordan Hall, Boston, MA (2007)  
Richard Toensing: Double Chaconne for violin and cello, Tucson, AZ (2011)  
Reza Vali Calligraphy no. 12 for string quartet, Columbus, OH (2012)  
Reza Vali Calligraphy no. 15 for string quartet, Carnegie Hall, NY (2017)  
David Stock String Quartet no. 13, Kresge Hall, Carnegie Mellon University (2018)

**Works Written for Carol Ou:**

Hsiao Tyzen: "Hakka Capriccio" and "Dance of the Winds"  
Daniel Pinkham: Sonata for violin and cello  
Richard Toensing: "Double Chaconne"  
Richard Toensing: String Trio no. 1

**New Music Ensembles Affiliations:**

Boston Modern Orchestra Project  
Alea III, Boston University

**Recordings – CDs****Naxos Label**

String Quartets of Sergei Taneyev, volumes 4 and 5 (2015 & 2016)  
Chamber Music Works of Walter Piston (1999)  
Winner, 2001 Chamber Music America / WQXR's Best Chamber Music recording award

**Albany Records**

Reza Vali: The Book of Calligraphy (2015)

**CRI Label**

Richard Toensing: Fantasia for Angels and Shepherds for Solo Cello and Percussion (1999)  
Martin Bresnick: B.'s Garlands for 8 cellos (1994)

**Chi-Mei Label (Taiwan)**

Elgar Cello Concerto and other works for Cello and Orchestra (2000)  
Tchaikovsky Rococo, Haydn D major Concerto and other works for Cello and Orchestra (1999)  
*Cello Favorites*, 17 encore pieces for cello and piano (1996)

**Recordings – Videos****Prentice Hall Publishing**

Conducted the Gordon Symphony Orchestra in *Inside the Orchestra*, a companion video to the nationally recognized music appreciation text *Understanding Music*, 2003

## **Youtube.com**

Numerous video clips of solo and chamber music performances including Carpe Diem String Quartet live concerts

## **CDSQ.org**

Numerous archived videos of live eStage presentation performances throughout 2013-2014

## **Teaching and Administrative Experiences**

### **New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, MA, 1996-present**

Chamber Music Faculty, College and Graduate Division

- Designed and taught chamber music performance and analysis seminars  
The courses focused on developing instrumentalists' awareness of rhetorical and dramatic content through the study of a composer's vocal and symphonic repertoire. The students are challenged to rethink and retool their instrumental skills better to convey meaning in non-verbal music. Seminar titles include:  
*Mozart string quartets, quintets, and operas*  
*Mendelssohn string quartet, quintets, and oratorio: Elijah*  
*Haydn quartets and "The Creation"*  
*Schumann song cycles, symphonies, and chamber music*  
*French chamber music, Symbolist poetry, and Pélleas et Mélisande*  
*Schubert string quartets and lieder*
- Coach individual chamber groups
- Perform on faculty chamber music series
- Coach orchestral sectionals
- Adjudicate school-wide concerto competitions

Cello and Chamber Music Faculty, Preparatory and Continuing Education Divisions

- Assistant Chair of Strings, Continuing Education (CE)
- Created the CE String Workshop Forum, which sponsors student performances and stimulates dialogue and community building between current students and adult music lovers and performers throughout New England.
- Organize CE string department auditions, evaluations, and public events
- Teach cello lessons to all ages and levels, pre-professional and professional
- Coach Preparatory and CE chamber music ensembles
- Teach workshops for all string students of all ages
- Prepare Preparatory students for local and national competitions
- Prepare students for college and graduate school auditions. Students were admitted to Juilliard, NEC, Yale and Manhattan School of Music.
- Prepare students for orchestral auditions – students have won positions at Washington National Opera Orchestra, Boston area orchestras, and principal positions in Boston area youth symphonies.

**New York University, 2018-present**

Adjunct Cello Faculty, Steinhardt School of Performing Arts

- Teach undergraduate and graduate cello majors
- Teach cello and chamber music at NYU Summer String Program

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA, 1999-present**

Cello Instructor

- Taught scholarship and fellowship award students
- Successfully prepared students for solo recitals and masterclasses

**Gordon College, Wenham, MA, 2001-2009**

Director of strings, chamber music, and orchestral studies

- Auditioned and placed all incoming string music majors
- Taught undergraduate cello lessons to music majors and non-majors  
Student repertoire included Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations, Schumann Concerto, Dvorak Concerto, Schubert Arpeggione Sonata, Bach Suites, many 20<sup>th</sup> century solo works.
- Conducted weekly cello masterclasses
- Created and coached the Gordon College Cello Ensemble
- Taught regular masterclasses for all string majors throughout each semester
- Taught string pedagogy
- Designed the chamber music program (included all majors and non-majors)
- Created chamber music performance seminars
- Created the peer mentoring program for NEC students to work and perform with Gordon students in chamber music and orchestral concerts
- Co-conducted the Gordon Symphony Orchestra in three full concerts annually  
Repertoire included Mozart, Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev Symphonies, Mendelssohn “Elijah”, Haydn “The Creation”, and Mozart Requiem.
- Performed as cello soloist with Gordon Symphony in Dvorak’s Cello Concerto, Prokofiev’s Sinfonia Concertante, Beethoven’s Triple Concerto, Yehudi Wyner’s “Prologue & Narrative” for cello and orchestra, Saint-Saens Concerto no. 1
- Invited guest artists and speakers: Robert Levin, Larry Todd, and Yehudi Wyner
- Hired and supervised orchestral instrumental faculty
- Networked with regional school music directors
- Created outreach performance opportunities for all string and chamber music students
- Developed public speaking and organizational skills for student concert presentations

**Heifetz International Music Institute, Wolfeboro, NH / Staunton, VA, 2006-2015**

Chamber Music Director, 2006-2013

Cello faculty, 2006-2015

- Auditioned all string and piano students and organized all chamber ensembles
- Coached 20 groups weekly and gave masterclasses
- Prepared all groups for concerts and outreach performances
- Taught private lessons and masterclasses to cello students
- Prepared all cellists in institute-wide cello ensemble performances
- Prepared all institute students for conductor-less chamber orchestra performance

## **Cello Masterclasses given:**

Klasik Keyifler Music Festival, Cappadocia, Turkey  
Vianden Music Festival, Vianden, Luxembourg  
Ukrainian National Conservatory, Kiev, Ukraine  
The Orchestra of the Teatro Argentino, La Plata, Argentina  
Australian National Academy of Music, Melbourne, Australia  
Presjovem Music Festival in Cordoba, Spain  
Open Chamber Music Festival, Trossingen, Germany  
Tainan University of the Arts, Tainan, Taiwan  
Music Institute of Chicago, Evanston, IL  
Boston Conservatory of Music, Boston, MA  
Longy School of Music, Cambridge, MA  
New York University, New York, NY

## **Live-Streaming Educational Shows and Outreach**

- Organize Carpe Diem String Quartet's (CDSQ) non-profit organization's educational outreach performances
- Wrote and performed in several eStage (interactive educational live-streaming) shows for the CDSQ, including: "Numbers Game" and "Ancient Sounds and Folklore"
- Performed in numerous eStage shows throughout 2013-2014 to over 3000 live audiences in Central Ohio schools and online audiences throughout the US and the world. Viewers have contributed questions and comments from Boston, Seattle, Hong Kong, Morocco and England.

## **Competition Adjudications**

Woolsey Hall Concerto Competition, Yale School of Music, 2005  
New England Conservatory Concerto Competitions, 2003-present  
Harvard-Radcliff Orchestra Concerto Competition, 2001-2007  
MIT Fellowship Award Competition, 1999-2005

## **Committee Service**

Assistant Chair of Strings, New England Conservatory Continuing Education Division, 2015-present  
Carpe Diem String Quartet non-profit board member, 2012-present  
Yale School of Music, Alumni Council, 2002-2006  
New England Conservatory of Music Preparatory Division Faculty Council, 2002-2003

## Awards

Winner, Chamber Music America & WQXR's Best Chamber Music Recording Award, 2001  
Outstanding Young Woman of America Award, 1998  
Presidential Award for Artistic Excellence, Taipei, Taiwan, 1995  
Top prize winner; National Federation of Music Clubs' Young Artists Competition, 1995  
Prize winner; William Byrd String Competition, 1992  
Prize winner; Irving M. Klein International String Competition, 1991  
Seidler Award for summer research in Taiwanese Aboriginal music, Yale University, 1991

## Education

DMA, Yale School of Music, 1998 (Dissertation topic: *Ibsen and Grieg's Peer Gynt*)  
MMA, Yale School of Music, 1994  
MM, Yale School of Music, 1993  
BA, Magna Cum Laude, Yale College, 1992