

Frank Salomon Associates

Your partner for the most exceptional musical experiences

CO-COMMISSIONING OPPORTUNITY



NOKUTHULA NGWENYAMA, COMPOSER



ESPRESSIVO!, PIANO QUARTET

*"Deeply rewarding." "The well-matched ensemble breathed together."
"More piano quartets from this group soon, please!"*

[Janelle Gelfand, Cincinnati's Arts Critic \(5/2023\)](#)

Following two seasons of triumphant premiere performances of composer Nokuthula Ngwenyama's *ELEGY*, a lyrical, moving work, members of the "absolutely stunning" new piano quartet **ESPRESSIVO!** have invited Ms. Ngwenyama to compose the first new piece written specifically for their ensemble. This celebratory work is planned to be a joyous **10' piano quartet** with beautiful lines for these wonderfully expressive artists to play. In addition to the new work, the program will feature a selection of the many beloved piano quartets.

Driven by a commitment to premiering and touring new works, the members of **ESPRESSIVO!** plan to perform this work in as many places as they possibly can and, to make this goal a reality, they are offering this opportunity to multiple partners to keep the commissioning and touring costs affordable. Co-commissioning partners currently stretch from Arizona to Vermont... WE ARE EAGER TO HAVE YOU JOIN THIS LIST!

WORLD PREMIERE: CINCINNATI OCTOBER 2024

additional premiere performances throughout 2024-25 & 2025-26 seasons

TOTAL COMMISSION COST: \$21,000

PARTICIPATION LEVEL: \$1500-\$5000*

Ms Ngwenyama writes "music of bold, mesmerizing character." Her captivating, thoughtful works have been performed around the nation, including recent performances by the Detroit Symphony, London Symphony, and Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart. Fall 2023 sees the premiere of "flow," a new string quartet written for The Takacs Quartet. Born in Los Angeles of Zimbabwean-Japanese parentage, Ngwenyama attended the Colburn School (Los Angeles) and the Curtis Institute of Music (Philadelphia), in addition to receiving a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard. She is a winner of the Primrose competition, the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, and an Avery Fisher Career Grant.

ESPRESSIVO! is comprised of violinist Jaime Laredo and cellist Sharon Robinson, considered among "chamber music royalty" (*Washington Post*), a term that applies equally to their partners - the stellar violinist Milena Pájaro-van de Stadt (formerly of the Dover Quartet) and award-winning pianist Anna Polonsky, one of chamber music's most sought-after partners.

*The commission will be administered through International Arts Foundation, Inc. (IAF) a 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Past commissioning projects have supported the creation of new works by Assad, Bermel, Bolcom, Danielpour, Dorman, Metheny, Ngwenyama, Rautavaara, Salonen, Zwilich, & more. **ESPRESSIVO!** performance fees contracted separately.