

**The Juilliard School**  
**presents**

## **The New Series: Ellen Taaffe Zwilich Portrait**

**Thursday, December 7, 2023, 7:30pm**  
**Judith Harris and Tony Woolfson Orchestral Studio (Room 543)**

**6:30pm Preconcert talk with David Serkin Ludwig (Graduate Diploma '02, composition) and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich (DMA '75, composition)**

ELLEN TAAFFE ZWILICH (b. 1939)  
*Fantasy* (2014)  
**Oliver Neubauer**, Violin

ZWILICH  
*Lament* (2000)  
**Elena Ariza**, Cello  
**Baron Fenwick**, Piano

ZWILICH  
Trio (1987)  
Allegro con brio  
Lento  
Presto  
**Leslie Ashworth**, Violin  
**Elena Ariza**, Cello  
**Baron Fenwick**, Piano

Intermission

ZWILICH  
Quartet (2004)  
I.  
II.  
**JJ Silvey**, Oboe  
**Simon Hagopian-Rogers**, Violin  
**Lindan Burns**, Viola  
**Noah Chen**, Cello

ZWILICH  
Quintet (2010)  
I.  
*Fantasy: Die launische Forelle (The Moody Trout)*  
III.  
**Chili Ekman**, Violin  
**Pearl Lenferna de la Motte**, Viola  
**Vanny Hu**, Cello  
**Dominic Law**, Double Bass  
**Anthony Ratinov**, Piano

Performance time: approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes, including an intermission

Juilliard's creative enterprise programming, including the Creative Associates program, is generously supported by Jody and John Arnhold and the Arnhold Foundation.

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## **About the Artists**

### **Ellen Taaffe Zwilich**

At a time when the musical offerings of the world are more varied than ever before, few composers have emerged with the unique personality of Ellen Taaffe Zwilich (DMA '75, composition). Her music is widely known because it is performed, recorded, broadcast, and—above all—listened to and enjoyed by all kinds of audiences the world over. A prolific composer in virtually all media, Zwilich has had works performed by most leading American orchestras and major ensembles abroad. Her works include five symphonies and a string of concertos commissioned and performed over the past two decades by the nation's top orchestras. Zwilich is the recipient of numerous prizes and honors, including the 1983 Pulitzer Prize in music (she was the first woman ever to receive this coveted award), Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Chamber Music Prize, Arturo Toscanini Music Critics Award, Ernst von Dohnányi Citation, Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Guggenheim Fellowship, four Grammy nominations, Alfred I. Dupont Award, Miami Performing Arts Center Award, Medaglia d'oro in the G.B. Viotti Competition, and NPR and WNYC Gotham Award for her contributions to the musical life of New York City. Among other distinctions, Zwilich has been elected to the American Classical Music Hall of Fame, Florida Artists Hall of Fame, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 1995, she was named to the first composer's chair in the history of Carnegie Hall and, in 1999, she was designated *Musical America's* composer of the year. Zwilich has received honorary doctorates from Oberlin College, Manhattanville College, Marymount Manhattan College, Mannes College/The New School, Converse College, and Michigan State University. She holds the Krafft Distinguished Professorship at Florida State University. Zwilich has been the subject of two cartoons in the late Charles Schulz's celebrated *Peanuts* comic strip. The first cartoon, in which the characters attend the premiere of Zwilich's Concerto for Flute, set off a chain of events which led eventually to the completion of Zwilich's *Peanuts Gallery* for piano and orchestra, which was also featured in Schulz's strip. *Peanuts Gallery*, which Zwilich wrote for a 1997 Carnegie Hall children's concert, went on to become the basis of the second PBS documentary to feature her music (the first, *The Gardens: Birth of a Symphony*, featured her Symphony No. 4, "The Gardens"). The *Peanuts Gallery* special has aired many times nationwide since its 2006 PBS debut and continues to be rebroadcast.

### **David Serkin Ludwig**

David Serkin Ludwig (Graduate Diploma '02, composition) enjoys a career of collaboration with some of today's leading musicians, filmmakers, and writers. This year, Ludwig was the recipient of the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Music and, in 2022, he was awarded the Stoeger Prize from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the largest chamber award of its kind. He received the 2018 Pew Center for the Arts and Heritage Fellowship, the Independence Foundation Fellowship (two-time recipient), Theodore Presser Career Grant, and A. I. duPont Award. In 2012, NPR named Ludwig one of the Top 100 Composers Under 40. The next year, his choral work *The New Colossus* opened the private prayer service for President Obama's second inauguration. Ludwig, who holds positions and residencies with nearly two dozen orchestras and music festivals in the U.S. and abroad, was named a Steinway Artist in 2021. Ludwig was formerly at the Curtis Institute of Music, where he served as dean of artistic programs, chair of composition, director of Ensemble 20/21, and artistic

director of Curtis Summerfest. In addition to Juilliard, he holds degrees from Oberlin Conservatory, Manhattan School of Music, and Curtis as well as a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. Ludwig also studied at the University of Vienna and taught at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania while attending Juilliard. He has received commissions and performances from artists and ensembles including the Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Minnesota, and National symphony orchestras as well as Jonathan Biss, Jeremy Denk, Jennifer Koh, Jaime Laredo, David Shifrin, Eighth Blackbird, Imani Winds, the Dover Quartet, and PRISM Saxophone Quartet. He has scored Hollywood feature films, written for historical performance ensembles, and created new works for non-traditional and electronic instruments. Ludwig, who was appointed dean and director of music at Juilliard in 2021, serves on the school's faculty and is the artistic director of Juilliard's collaborative contemporary music project The New Series. He lives in New York City with his wife, violinist Bella Hristova, and their four beloved cats.

### **Producing Team for Ellen Taaffe Zwilich Portrait**

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