

46TH ANNUAL MCELHERAN VISITING ARTIST

RAQUEL ACEVEDO KLEIN



 **CPS** Community Performance Series

April 18, 2026 | 7:30 pm
Proscenium Theater
SUNY Potsdam Performing Arts Center

46th McElheran Visiting Artist

RAQUEL ACEVEDO KLEIN

April 18, 2026 at 7:30 PM

PROSCENIUM THEATER, PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
SUNY POTSDAM, POTSDAM, NEW YORK

Raquel Acevedo Klein '16

Andrew Sheron

Darian Donovan Thomas

Timothy Sullivan

Featuring Crane School of Music student string quartet:

Paolina Iori '26

Emma Kuegel '28

Stephen Borgia '27

Maggie Christie '27

Vocal & Electronics

Piano & Bass

Violin

Drums

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

- PROGRAM IS APPROXIMATELY 60 MINUTES. NO INTERMISSION -

And So

Other Song

Wisteria

Motherland

Amaryllis

Howl

First Light

Cosmic Vertigo

Approaching L2

I Weave Your Memory With Mine

Bird Song

C. Shaw (2018)

C. Shaw (2019)

R. Acevedo Klein (2021)

R. Acevedo Klein (2018)

R. Acevedo Klein (2021)

R. Acevedo Klein (2022)

R. Acevedo Klein (2024)

R. Acevedo Klein (2024)

R. Acevedo Klein (2024)

R. Acevedo Klein (2021)

R. Acevedo Klein (2024)



Season Underwriters



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Celebrating the 36th Season of Community Performance Series

Thank you for choosing to spend part of your day with us. Sharing in the arts is an essential ingredient in the magic of live performance, and your presence here helps create the energy that only an in-person experience can provide.

This residency has been a year-long collaboration with Raquel Acevedo Klein '16. The artistic drive, dedication, and commitment to relationship-building that defined her time

at The Crane School of Music have continued to shape an impressive career in both the visual art and music worlds since her graduation. Raquel brought those worlds together through a two-part residency, beginning with a solo exhibition in the Gibson Gallery and culminating here tonight with this concert.

During both visits to campus, she spent time teaching art and music majors through a series of workshops and masterclasses. For the first two works on tonight's program, Raquel will perform alongside her professor, Dr. Timothy Sullivan, and a Crane student string quartet—three generations of musicians bound together through connection and legacy.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to support this very special residency and to witness both long-standing relationships deepen and new ones begin. Enjoy this culminating-season performance of the Community Performance Series, and I hope to see you again at one of the many fantastic events here at SUNY Potsdam—including the CPS Summer Musical production of *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella: Enchanted Edition* in July.

All are welcome to join us for a post-concert reception in the lobby.

With gratitude,

Vanessa N. Vaverchak

Director, Arts and Community Performance Series

Office of Public Learning, Arts and Community Engagement (PLACE)

"It is the special province of music to move the heart" - Johann Sebastian Bach

Community Performance Series Summer Musical Production

Rodgers & Hammerstein's
CINDERELLA

Enchanted Edition

Music by **RICHARD RODGERS**
Book & Lyrics by **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**
Adapted for the stage by **Tom Briggs**
From the teleplay by **Robert L. Freedman**

Stage Director: **Kimberly Busch '93 & '96**
Vocal & Music Director: **Andrea Ellison '01 & '02**
Choreographer: **Meaghan Janovsky '07 & '12**

Inspired by the acclaimed 1997 teleplay starring Brandy and Whitney Houston, this version of the magical fairy tale is reborn with the Rodgers & Hammerstein hallmarks of originality, charm and elegance. The 2026 Community Performance Series production features a blend of talented SUNY Potsdam students, alumni, faculty/staff alongside members of the the community in roles both on stage and behind the scenes. You won't want to miss this magical experience!

Performances July 10 & 16–19, 2026

Proscenium Theater | SUNY Potsdam Performing Arts Center

TICKETS ON SALE MAY 1, 2026 AT CPSPOTSDAM.ORG



CINDERELLA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization.

Community Performance Series

36TH SEASON

SINCE 1989, THE COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE SERIES SERVES AS A COLLEGE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP THAT PRESENTS DISTINCTIVE AND RENOWNED PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS IN NORTHERN NEW YORK.

Vanessa Vaverchak M '27

Director, Arts & Community Performance Series

Meghan Stever

Assistant Director, Arts & Community Performance Series

Student Intern Team

Gloria Diederich '27

Box Office Associate

Jonah S. Dunn '28

Box Office Associate

Julia Ellison '28

CPS Youth Programming Coordinator

Elena Kaplan '26

Box Office Associate

Melody Sample '27

CPS Student Intern

Sara Ward '27

Box Office Associate

Michael Wong '26

CPS Youth Programming Coordinator

Special thanks to:

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Public Learning, Arts and Community Engagement (PLACE), especially Haley Billings '13, M '26

Office of College Advancement, especially Colin Michaud '22 & '23

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Crane Interim Dean, Dr. David Heuser

Crane Interim Assistant Dean, Dr. Charles Guy

Crane/Performing Arts Center Director of Operations, Dr. Matthew Gatti '10

Crane/Performing Arts Center Director of Production, Joshua Barkley '21

Associate Professor: Electronic Music Theory & Composition, Jerod Sommerfeldt

Professor: Music Theory & Composition, Dr. Timothy Sullivan

Ryan Mix, Senior Piano Technician '04

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Concert Survey: Raquel Acevedo
Klein



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Set up a one-on-one meeting with Director, Vanessa Vaverchak, to
explore how your generosity can sustain and expand our programs.

Find her in the lobby after the show or reach out at:

315-267-2612 or vavercvn@potsdam.edu



SUNY Potsdam Alumni Association Reunion July 9-12, 2026

All are welcome back to campus for our annual Reunion celebration. Whether you graduated 50 years ago or 5 years ago, we hope to see you there! **Registration is open:** potsdam.edu/alumni-friends/reunion



The **SUNY Potsdam Alumni Association** is proud to welcome new members into the alumni family each year as our students graduate. Shared experiences at SUNY Potsdam and during the years following graduation keep our community strong, throughout generations and no matter the distance.

We love connecting with our alumni and friends!

Visit potsdam.edu/alumni to complete the **Connection Form** today!



ABOUT RAQUEL ACEVEDO KLEIN

The Washington Post describes composer, conductor, vocalist, instrumentalist, and visual artist **Raquel Acevedo Klein** as a “force to be reckoned with.” Raquel recently made her Los Angeles Philharmonic conducting debut at Walt Disney Concert Hall. Recent collaborations, recordings and performances include working with Rosalía, singing with Florence + The Machine on The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, singing on the record release of Florence’s latest record *Everybody Scream*, conducting the premiere of Gabriela Ortiz’ “Kauyumari” and “Canta la Piedra-Tetluikan” at Carnegie Hall and The Met, and starring in Jamar Roberts’ “Dance is a Mother” as a vocalist with New York City Ballet and Sara Mearns at New York City Center. Raquel has been commissioned by Opera Philadelphia to write her first opera detailing her family’s immigration from Colombia and migration to NYC from Puerto Rico.

Earlier this season, Raquel made her Broadway debut as Music Director for Justin Peck’s Tony Award-winning musical *Illinoise*, featuring music and lyrics by Sufjan Stevens. Sony Music released Raquel’s debut record with Arcade Fire’s Richard Reed Parry entitled *Adrienne and the Castle*. Raquel tours and records as a vocalist in the Grammy Award-winning vocal band Roomful of Teeth. Conducting credits include the New York Philharmonic, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Attacca Quartet, Sō Percussion, Beth Morrison Projects, and Brooklyn Youth Chorus. Raquel has premiered vocal works by John Adams, Nico Muhly, Bryce Dessner, and Paola Prestini. Favorite vocal performance and recording highlights include working with Alicia Keys, Bon Iver, Claire Chase, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Raquel’s compositions and performances have captured the attention of The New York Times, The New Yorker, and The Los Angeles Times. Raquel has performed at Lincoln Center, Radio City Music Hall, Town Hall, Park Avenue Armory, The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, WNYC, BAM, St. Ann’s Warehouse, Celebrate Brooklyn!, the Guggenheim, Rockefeller Center, National Sawdust, Caramoor, Bard Fisher Center and elsewhere.

Raquel increasingly brings her visual and musical practices into dialogue. She composed a body of ambisonic music presented by NASA and the European Space Agency, exploring human consciousness and cosmic origins through data from the James Webb Space Telescope; the work premiered in a 360° audio-visual dome at the Texas Eclipse Festival and was published in NASA’s NTRS. In 2024, she mounted a three-month exhibition and a three-week run of live performances titled “Meta/Physical Therapy” at the Museum of Modern Art, collaborating with Nick Hallett and Shana Moulton. In 2022, Raquel formed a trio with Caroline Shaw and Angélica Negrón where they co-composed and performed a new song cycle comprised of voice, electronics, viola, and accordion at Caramoor. As part of NY PopsUp, Raquel curated a four-week festival entitled NYC FREE, to celebrate the opening of Little Island in 2021. Raquel premiered an original, audience-interactive

vocal symphony entitled “Polyphonic Interlace,” made from 40 recorded layers of her voice that audiences can play using their phones. As a vocalist, she has recorded and performed with artists including Glen Hansard, Arcade Fire, Bon Iver, The National, Grizzly Bear, Sufjan Stevens, and New York Philharmonic among others.

Raquel was raised in a family of illustrators, animators, printmakers and painters. She learned to draw with the same rigor and repetition as her vocal, conducting, composing, and pianistic practice. Her visual practice is grounded in draftsmanship, anatomy, perspective, foreshortening, and figuration, and she studied visual art at The Cooper Union and The Fashion Institute of Technology through their pre-college programs. She continues this lineage through her own practice, regularly running figure drawing sessions and teaching drawing as a discipline of looking, contouring and plotting underlying forms.

Raquel is a 2016 graduate of the Crane School of Music (Music Education) at SUNY Potsdam.

ABOUT ANDREW SHERON

Andrew Sheron is the co-founder of Conveyor Recording Studio in Brooklyn, New York alongside Jason Borisoff in 2019, taking full ownership of the recording studio in 2023. A multi-instrumentalist, multi-hyphenate, and life-long learner, Sheron excels in all facets of honest musical expression.

A classically trained pianist and conservatory educated bassist and engineer, Sheron continues picking up instruments throughout his studies, travels, and professional journey. Today, he is proficient in recording and performing on guitar (fretted and fretless), orchestral strings, mandolin, percussion, Linnstrument, and regional folk instruments from Central Asia, Africa, the Mediterranean, and more.

Sheron thrives in the art of play — the give-and-take, improvisational, free flowing, judgement-free exchange of musical ideas — which makes him the consummate producer. A natural helper, he is currently available for hire not just in this role, but also as a recording, mixing and mastering engineer, session or live player, and educator for individual and group lessons.

Before starting Conveyor, Sheron worked at the 3D Audio and Applied Acoustics Laboratory at Princeton University, did award-winning work with Meow Wolf on their first augmented reality piece, “The Atrium,” and began a still ongoing collaboration with Alash Ensemble called “Tuvagrass.”

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This LoKo Arts project is made possible by the generosity and artistic vision of Kathryn (Kofeod) '54 and Donald Lougheed (Hon. '54) and is co-sponsored by the SUNY Potsdam Alumni Association.

View all upcoming spring LoKo Arts events at potsdam.edu/loko

ABOUT DARIAN DONOVAN THOMAS

Composer, multi-instrumentalist, and interdisciplinary artist **Darian Donovan Thomas** was born in San Antonio, Texas and is currently based in Brooklyn, New York. He is interested in combining genres and mediums into a singular vocabulary that can express ideas about intersectionality (of medium and identity). Necessarily, he is interested in redacting all barriers to entry that have existed at the gates of any genre - this vocabulary of multiplicity will be intersectional, and therefore all-inclusive.

Darian has been commissioned by YOSA (the Youth Orchestras of San Antonio), Bang on a Can's summer festival Banglewood, percussionists at Bard College Conservatory, Sam Houston State University, among others. His music has been premiered by So Percussion, YOSA, Bang on a Can Banglewood Fellows, SoSI Fellows, and performed in Iceland, Switzerland, Canada, and all around the United States.

On any given night you can find Darian performing anywhere from a salon house show to a grungy basement to a bar/venue to a formal concert hall. As a means of exercising his interdisciplinary nature, Darian is currently performing with eight bands and ensembles in New York, as well as creating interdisciplinary work in different visual mediums. He has recently performed with Moses Sumney on the Late Show with Stephen Colbert, in a Tiny Desk concert with critically acclaimed dreambow band Balun, toured internationally to Iceland with Apartment Sessions, toured nationally and recorded with the Katie Martucci Band, is performing with MEDIAQUEER, Mordechai, String Orchestra of Brooklyn, Prompts Collective, and constantly performs his solo set in different venues around NYC. He has toured China, England, Wales, and has performed nationally with the Josh Abbott Band to audiences of thousands of people.

Darian received his Bachelors in Music Composition from The University of the Incarnate Word (2016) in San Antonio, Texas. He has since been a New Amsterdam Records Composer Lab Fellow (2018), So Percussion Summer Institute (SoSI) Composer Fellow (2018), Infinite Palette composer performer for Aeon Ritual at MASSMoCA (2019), and a Bang on a can Summer Institute "Banglewood" Composer Fellow (2019). He has studied with Julia Wolfe, David Lang, Michael Gordon, Sarah Kirkland Snider, William Britelle, Andrea Mazzariello, Troy Peters, amongst others.

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ABOUT TIMOTHY SULLIVAN

Tim Sullivan is an active composer, theorist, and percussionist. He holds a Ph.D. in Music Theory and Composition from the University of Michigan, where he studied composition with Bright Sheng, William Bolcom, Betsy Jolas, and Karen Tanaka, and various aspects of music theory and compositional systems with Andrew Mead. His compositions have been performed by ensembles and soloists throughout the U.S., including the Colorado Symphony, Moravian Philharmonic, ALEA III, Nicholas Deyoe, Eliot Gattegno, Marian Lee, Reiko Manabe, and Lorraine Yaros Sullivan.

He has presented his research at several major conferences including the Society for Music Theory, “Gérard Grisey, the spectral moment and its legacy,” and “Emigration, Integration and Creative Productivity: Alfred Schnittke in Hamburg, 1990-1998.” Publications include an article in *Perspectives of New Music* and a forthcoming paper in a German/English monograph on Alfred Schnittke. Also an accomplished jazz drummer prior to his time in Potsdam, he performed and recorded as a member of the Boulder Creative Music Ensemble, and was a member of trumpeter Ron Miles band for several years.”

ABOUT THE CRANE SCHOOL OF MUSIC STUDENT QUARTET

Paolina Iori '26' is a Senior Music Education and Performance Major with a Violin Concentration at the Crane School of Music. With 4 years of collegiate study, Paolina has honed her technique under the guidance of Liesl Schoenberger Doty. She now looks forward to making music with her colleagues in for this residency!

Emma Kuegel '28' is a Sophomore Music Education and Performance Major from Bellport, NY. Emma has studied with Liesl Schoenberger Doty and Anna Hendrickson at SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music.

Stephen Borgia '27' is from Westbury, New York, pursuing a degree in Music Education and Music Performance at SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music. His primary instrument is the violin, with the viola as a secondary focus. Stephen has studied under Liesl Doty, Shelly Tramposh, and Carol Kushner.

Maggie Christie '27' is from Patchogue, New York. She is a Junior Music Education Major with a concentration in Cello at the Crane School and studies with Marie-Élaine Gagnon.



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