“...taking one bold step after another...”

- ARTS & CULTURE TEXAS

Compassionate Houston Artists of the Year (2022)
With Endless Gratitude,
Matthew J. Detrick, Founder, Artistic and Executive Director

PHOTO/LYNN LANE

As Apollo journeys into the mid-2020s, we find ourselves face-to-face with new efforts to ban, censor and marginalize. This silencing of voices is nothing new. As we explore in this season’s bold and thought-provoking programming, creatives in a plethora of fields have endured censorship throughout the ages.

How can art speak to our current challenges, and how can substantive debate be encouraged and respected in the pursuit of knowledge? With humility we will attempt to answer these questions and more this year, in collaboration with world-class, genre-defying composers and artists from Houston and afar.

We enter our 16th season having commissioned over 40 new multicultural works. This creative force is Apollo's continuing MoonShot - the evolution and diversification of what classical music means in the 21st century and beyond. In humanity’s quest for truth and knowledge, what better way to preserve a canon than to develop and evolve it?

As you delve into our programming for the coming season, please consider a tax-deductible donation gift along with your subscription package. Thank you for your enduring generosity and faith in Apollo’s mission.

To close, we are thrilled to announce the appointment of our new Core Violist, Aria Cheregosha. (Read more about Aria on page 12.) Her artistry and worldview unite in synergy with Apollo, and we look forward to growing with her in global connections and musical exploration.

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Our 16th season begins with a musical commentary on the “reasoning” behind book censorship and control, with nods to notable books that have been banned historically. Genre-fusing composer and flutist Allison Loggins-Hull, Composer Fellow for the Cleveland Orchestra, and Houston-based composer Mark Buller join Apollo for a program all-too resonant with our social and political moment. University of Houston professor Howard Pollack also joins to discuss the banning and censorship of American composers during the McCarthy period.

Program

**Allison Loggins-Hull:**
Commission for string quartet and flute inspired by censorship in literature WORLD PREMIERE

**Mark Buller:**
Commission for string quartet inspired by censorship in literature WORLD PREMIERE

**Virgil Thomson:** *String Quartet No. 2*

**Aaron Copland:** *Two Pieces for string quartet*

Guests

**Mark Buller**, composer

**Allison Loggins-Hull**, composer and flutist

**Edward Melton**, Director, Harris County Public Library

**Howard Pollack**, panel moderator, University of Houston, Professor of Musicology
“I can easily conceive that as soon as some people learn in this book which I have written concerning the revolutions of the Earth and heavenly bodies, they will cry out at once that I and my theory should be rejected.”
- Nicolaus Copernicus

“The only concept recording of the 21st century that can be considered crucial listening.”
- AllMusic

Concert Two

Saturday, November 18, 2023 | 8:00pm
@Houston Museum of Natural Science: Burke Baker Planetarium

Our story of censorship continues with composer, multimedia artist and writer **Paul D. Miller (aka DJ Spooky)**, whose work immerses audiences in a blend of genres, global culture, and environmental issues. Spanning multiple centuries, we delve into the history of “forbidden” theories in science and astronomy, from the trailblazing, norm-shattering discoveries of Copernicus and Galileo to the present day warnings of climatologists.

*Please note there is limited seating for this event; planetarium capacity is 164.*

Program
**DJ Spooky/Paul D. Miller**
Commission for string quartet and electronics inspired by censorship in science

Guest Artist **DJ Spooky/Paul D. Miller**, composer & multimedia artist
“[Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton’s] art defies categorization.”
- NY Times

**Concert Three**

**REVISED**

Saturday, February 17, 2024  |  7:00pm
@Holocaust Museum Houston

Apollo collaborates with two Houston Poet Laureate Emeriti for a genre-fusing musical conversation about peace, poetry, and Revisionism as a means of Black censorship. The program features a new commission by award-winning poet, activist and educator Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton and Emmy-winning composer Jasmine Barnes, with vocal guests from Houston Ebony Opera Guild.

**Program**

**Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton/Jasmine Barnes**: Commission for string quartet, spoken word and chorus inspired by revisionism and Black censorship. WORLD PREMIERE

**John Cornelius**: PAX

**Guests**

Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton, poet, activist and educator

Jasmine Barnes, composer • Outspoken Bean, poet

Kenneth Gayle, tenor

members of Houston Ebony Opera Guild

LEARN MORE
Friday, May 24, 2024 | 7:30pm (Q&A @7pm)
@Duncan Recital Hall,
Shepherd School of Music at Rice University

Our season finale uplifts voices that have been suppressed by totalitarian dogma and those silenced within ourselves. While Dutch-Jewish composer Dick Kattenburg perished in Auschwitz because of his faith, Robert Schumann perpetually battled and was ultimately defeated by the scourge of mental illness.

We welcome Netherlands-based composer Joey Roukens to the Bayou City for the world premiere of a commission for string quartet, inspired by the composer’s favorite Dutch folk songs.

A portion of concert proceeds will benefit NAMI Houston, a Houston-based organization addressing families and people affected by mental illness.

Program

**Joey Roukens**: Commission for string quartet based on Dutch folk songs  
WORLD PREMIERE

**Dick Kattenburg**: Trio à cordes

**R. Schumann**: Piano Quintet in E-flat major

**Guests**: Joey Roukens, composer • Tuğçe Özcivan, piano
St. John Flynn, panel moderator

Commission generously underwritten by Ed Schneider and Toni Oplt
Trace of Time is a journey of musical discovery and cultural connections, from spirituals to the evolution of the tango. The program showcases music by Adolphus Hailstork, Astor Piazzolla and Latin Grammy-winning composer and bandoneon performer Hector Del Curto. Featuring Texas’ premiere tango duo Hugo Patyn and Celina Rotundo.

Seventh Annual Czech Heritage Month Concert
Thursday, October 26, 2023 • 7pm • Czech Center Museum Houston

In honor of Czech Heritage Month, we continue our exploration of the captivating chamber music of Czech composer Antonín Dvořák, headlined by his swashbuckling, folk-inspired String Sextet. Featuring special guests Lauren Spaulding, viola, and Norman Fischer, Professor of Cello at The Shepherd School of Music, Rice University. Program underwritten by Father Paul Chovanec.

Holiday Voyage
Saturday, December 16, 2023 • 7:00pm
First Congregational Church Houston

Apollo’s sixth annual Holiday Voyage concert celebrates the idea of religious pluralism as a means of fostering compassion and cultural harmony. Despite historical and ongoing censorship in our society, the holiday season offers a reminder that the arc of history “bends towards justice”. Program features new music by John Cornelius, Isabelle Ganz, and Brian Nabors.
Programs at all 26 Harris County Public Library branches by 2024

----The first project of its kind in the nation----

As a meaningful successor to our 20x2020 multicultural commissioning project, Apollo has set a goal to perform at all twenty-six Harris County Public Libraries. This past season we completed the middle eight chapters of this journey, celebrating Black History, Hispanic, Asian, Native American and PRIDE Months at library branches around Houston/Harris County.

These accessible and FREE programs feature Apollo commissions, arrangements and special guests, curated to reflect the heartbeat of Houston’s global community. Please visit our website for up-to-date information and dates for the 23-24 season. Join us as we continue our literary and musical trek!

Upcoming Fall 2023 Dates

Hispanic Heritage Month & Banned Books Week
CHAPTER 15: September 23, 2023 (11am) @Aldine Branch
CHAPTER 16: September 30, 2023 (1pm) @CyFair Branch
CHAPTER 17: October 7, 2023 (2pm): @Octavia Fields Branch
CHAPTER 18: October 21, 2023 (2:30pm): @Atascocita Branch
CHAPTER 19: October 28, 2023 (1pm): @Katherine Tyra Branch

Native American Heritage Month
CHAPTER 20: November 13, 2023 (7pm): @Baldwin Boettcher Branch
CHAPTER 21: November 16, 2023 (5:30pm): @Crosby Branch

Holiday Voyage
CHAPTER 22: December 14, 2023 (6pm): @North Channel Branch

LIBRARY VOYAGE generously supported by the Houston Endowment, the Brown Foundation, and Candice and Roger Moore. Please consider a gift towards Library Voyage to invest in its success and far-reaching impact.

Over 2,000 reached to date!
15th Anniversary HIGHLIGHTS

Silk Threads
@Edith Bates Old
Grand Organ Hall,
Rice University

Banned: Music
@Holocaust Museum Houston

Holiday Voyage
@FCC Houston

Mekong Soul
@Asia Society Texas Center

We Will Sing One Song
@Stude Hall, Rice University
15th Anniversary HIGHLIGHTS

“A glorious evening of contemporary chamber music.”
-Oberon’s Grove (NYC)

Concert Review

Apollo Moonshot
@Carnegie Hall • March 2023

MEKONG: SOUL
@The Kennedy Center • April 2023
New Album!

Trace of Time
Worldwide release January 2024 (Azica Records)
Featuring new commissions by Adolphus Hailstork and Latin Grammy-winning bandoneon performer-composer Hector Del Curto.

MoonStrike (2022)
Azica Records
“…superb and out of this world.” (Gramophone)

With Malice Toward None (2021)
Azica Records
#1 on Amazon’s Hot New Release Chart!
“Bold new recording.” (San Fransisco Classical Voice)

Within Earth (2019)
Parma Recordings
“Relentless, starkly exhilarating music”
(New York Music Daily)

Ancestral Voices (2017)
Parma Recordings
“…intimate and detailed, loud and fun.”
(Gramophone)

Blurred Boundaries (2016)
Parma Recordings
“This is truly lovely music played exceptionally well by the adventurous and gifted young ensemble.
Highly recommended!” (Audiophile Audition)

European Folkscapes (2014)
Parma Recordings
WQXR-NYC ‘Album of the Week’.
“Zesty collection of folk arrangements for string quartet.”

Follow Us!
Stream Anytime!
Houston-based APOLLO CHAMBER PLAYERS “performs with rhythmic flair and virtuosity” (The Strad) and “recasts music for a diverse and multi-ethnic generation” (Strings Magazine) through globally-inspired programming and multicultural new music commissions. Recipient of Chamber Music America’s prestigious Residency Partnership award, the ensemble has performed for sold-out audiences at Carnegie Hall and The Kennedy Center, and it is featured frequently on American Public Media’s nationally-syndicated program Performance Today.

Released in 2021 on the Grammy-winning label Azica Records, Apollo’s With Malice Toward None album reached No. 1 on Amazon’s Hot New Release chart, and the ensemble’s catalog of albums has been featured on hundreds of radio and media stations worldwide. A passionate advocate of contemporary music and underrepresented composers, Apollo recently concluded a bold initiative to commission 20 new multicultural works by the end of the last decade. 20x2020 features a diverse roster of the world’s leading composers including Jennifer Higdon, Libby Larsen, Pamela Z, Leo Brouwer, Jerod Tate, and Vanessa Võ.

Apollo’s community partners include schools and universities, at-risk youth centers, refugee and veterans service organizations, and public libraries. The ensemble’s vanguard Library Voyage project is the first of its kind in the nation. Apollo was founded in 2008 by violinist and music entrepreneur Matthew J. Detrick.

ARIA CHEREGOSHA - Core Artist, Viola
Praised for her “remarkable musical aplomb”, violist Aria Cheregosha has “successfully blazed her own path” (CVNC), garnering numerous musical accolades as a versatile chamber musician and collaborator. A North Carolina native, Aria began her musical odyssey at the age of 7, performing in both Carnegie Hall and The Kennedy Center by the age of 13. Aria holds degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music, where she studied under world-renowned pedagogue Kim Kashkashian, and from The Juilliard School, where she studied with Roger Tapping.

Aria is currently the Artist in Residence for 2023-2024 at the Harvard Research Institute, Dumbarton Oaks, with her fiery Persian and Cajun viola duo, Tallà Rouge. A first generation Persian-American, Aria also aims to pay tribute to her heritage on stage through the performance and commissioning of works that celebrate her cultural roots. WELCOME TO APOLLO, ARIA!
Mission

to connect communities and cultures through globally inspired music.

Vision

to create cultural harmony through musical exploration.

CORE ARTISTS
Matthew J. Detrick, violin • Anabel Ramirez Detrick, violin
Aria Cheregosha, viola • Matthew Dudzik, cello

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Matthew J. Detrick, Founder, Artistic & Executive Director
Luisana Rivas, Managing Director
Anabel Ramirez Detrick, Program and Content Manager
Matthew Dudzik, Chief Financial Officer
Brad Sayles, Audio Engineer
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Ben Doyle (BEND Productions), Videography

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Apollo Chamber Players is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

“Your music is helping us to positively shape our children’s lives.”

— Jodi R. (U.S. Army Veteran)
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  - Latest Apollo CD, autographed by artists
- **Polka** ($50-$249)
  - Benefits: Recognition on all marketing materials

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ARTEMIS PREMIER SERIES

Pricing: 4-CONCERT SUBSCRIPTION

October 6, 2023 BANNED
@ MATCH Houston

November 18, 2023 CANCELED
@ HMNS (Burke Baker Planetarium)

February 17, 2024 REVISED
@ Holocaust Museum Houston

May 24, 2024 MUTED
@ Duncan Recital Hall (Rice University)

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☐ Please use my donation gift to invest in Library Voyage.

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“The audience at Carnegie Hall was treated to one of the finest chamber music concerts of recent memory.”

- OBERON’S GROVE (NYC)

apollocamberplayers.org