

Gotham Early Music Scene (GEMS) presents



Thursday November 2, 2023 1:15 pm
St Malachy's Church – The Actors' Chapel in New York City
Live Streamed to midtownconcerts.org and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)

Aaron Goler and Friends *The Gebauer Hour*

*Aaron Goler, Ezra Gans & Morgan Davison ~ bassoons Kelsey Burnham ~ flute
Elise Bonbivert ~ clarinet Rachel Nierenberg ~ horn*

Duo Concertante, Op. 48, No. 2

François-René Gebauer (1773–1845)

Allegro moderato ~ Romance ~ Polacca

Trio No. 11 in G minor

Allegro moderato
Minuetto. Allegro – Trio
Andante grazioso
Rondo. Allegro vivace

Quartetto, Op. 41

Allegro maestoso
Rondo – Allegro

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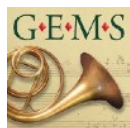
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www.gemsny.org

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Born to a musical family at Louis XV's Versailles court, a teenager during the Revolution, and deeply imbedded in the musical scene of post-Revolutionary Paris, **François-René Gebauer** (1773–1845) was a bassoonist-composer whose oeuvre has since fallen into deep obscurity. Today's program features chamber works for three unusual and increasingly large combinations of wind instruments. All three pieces were written near the end of Gebauer's career and blend the operatic lyricism of François Devienne with Anton Reicha's proto-Romantic chromaticism, plus a healthy dose of Gebauer's own pure virtuosity — always graceful, never sour. Sit back and enjoy an hour of Gebauer's towering compositional powers.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Aaron Goler is a New York-based bassoonist, music editor, and early keyboard technician who approaches early music with rhetorical élan. A seasoned performer on contemporary and historical bassoons, Aaron has played with orchestras across North America and Europe including Concerto Köln, Boston Baroque, Les Arts Florissants, and Arion Baroque Orchestra. Aaron holds a master's in Baroque bassoon from The Juilliard School, a master's in bassoon performance from McGill University and a Bachelor of Music from the University of Minnesota. When he isn't bassooning, Aaron tunes and services harpsichords and fortepianos professionally and dreams of someday building his own clavichord from scratch.

New York-based horn player **Rachel Nierenberg** enjoys a diverse musical career as a chamber musician, orchestral player, and teacher. Drawn to historical performance by her deep love for music from the Classical era, Rachel picked up the natural horn in the spring of 2020 and has since enjoyed exploring the colorful timbres and the exceptional range of musical expression achievable on early instruments. She has loved playing chamber music with friends, as well as performing with Berwick Academy Orchestra, Boston Baroque, and the Handel & Haydn Society. A lifelong learner and teacher, Rachel regularly works with elementary school children as a teaching artist. Outside the musical sphere, she loves immersing herself in the visual, literary, and culinary arts.

Ezra Gans is a performer and composer currently residing in New York. His work straddles the worlds of historically informed performance and experimental improvisation, interweaving instruments and musical techniques of the past and present to create music that examines our relationship with history. Aside from performing on bassoons of various shapes and sizes, Ezra's work often incorporates live electronics, spoken word, and even, on occasion, fun costumes. He is a member of slapslap, a Detroit-based performance-art-rock band consisting of two electric bassoons and two drummers.

Bassoonist **Morgan Davison** is a passionate musician and an avid learner. She recently graduated from The Juilliard School with a second master's degree in Historical Performance. She graduated in 2021 from Juilliard with her Master of Music and earned her Bachelor of Music in 2019 from the Manhattan School of Music. Morgan has played with professional orchestras including the Handel & Haydn Society, the Oratorio Society of New York, Haymarket Opera Company, the Colorado Symphony, and the Boston Symphony.

Flute and recorder specialist **Kelsey Burnham** is a passionate performer and teacher based in New York. Since finishing her master's degree at The Juilliard School in 2021, Kelsey has held a faculty position with Peabody Conservatory's Preparatory program. From France to New Zealand, Kelsey has had the immense pleasure of performing with numerous notable groups including Teatro Nuovo and the Handel & Haydn Society, and has her concerto debut coming up this December in her hometown of Baltimore.

Elise Bonhivert plays a wide range of historical and contemporary clarinet systems and can be heard in various ensembles around the country. She studied contemporary clarinet at Indiana University with Eli Eban, and historical clarinets with Eric Hoepfich. After university, she studied instrument making with Bill McColl, and instrument repair at Renton Technical College. She then left the Seattle area to study historical clarinets and instrument making at the Royal Conservatory of the Hague. Elise is now based in the greater New York area where she also enjoys making, restoring, and repairing old instruments along with performing.

NEXT WEEK: Roberts and Sykes Duo
A Conversation with Bach