

QuinTango · *Changing lives one tango at a time* · www.quintango.com

ALEXANDRA MIKHLIN & JOAN SINGER, VIOLINS • SUSANNA MENDLOW, CELLO
EMMANUEL TRIFLIO, BANDONEON • ALI COOK, BASS • PHIL HOSFORD, PIANO

ARTISTS' BIOS

Ali Cook, *bass*, can be seen regularly performing orchestral, opera, chamber, and new music in Washington, D.C., Baltimore, MD, and Detroit, MI. A recent, graduate of the Indiana University School of Music, she also writes, plays, and sings Americana and is currently working on her first album. Ali has toured Russia with the National Symphony Orchestra as well as Germany, Turkey, Spain, and Austria with the Christoph Eschenbach and the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival. She has also performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Washington National Opera, Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, Spoleto Festival USA, the Alabama Symphony, and the Salzburger Festspiele.

Phil Hosford, *piano*, is a pianist of international reputation, touring the U.S., Europe, South America, Africa and Southeast Asia. The Washington Post acclaims his playing as “the perfect meeting of artistry and pyrotechnics...gripping and powerful.” Performance highlights include those at the Kennedy Center, Strathmore Center, New York’s Lincoln Center, London’s Wigmore Hall, Teatro del Opera in Buenos Aires and Kolarec Narodni Hall in Belgrade. He is the winner of top prizes in fifteen national and international competitions, including the Terrence Judd International Auditions in London and the United States Artistic Ambassador Auditions. He is a recipient of the Solo Performers Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 1995, he and his wife, pianist Hayuru Taima, founded the Academy of Fine Arts in Gaithersburg, MD.

Susanna Mendlow, *cello*, is a versatile musician and enjoys playing a variety of styles, including classical, ethnic folk, pop, and improvisation. In addition to QuinTango, she is a member of the ensemble Kassia Music and serves as the Executive Director for Cellospeak, an organization dedicated to the musical education of adult amateur cellists. She has performed extensively throughout Europe, Central Asia, and the United States. Susanna’s debut album, recorded in 2019, features music from a range of cultures and styles. Susanna has a doctorate in cello performance from SUNY Stonybrook.

Alexandra Mikhlin, *violin*, was born in Russia and immigrated to the US in 1991 with her family. She earned degrees in violin performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Yale University. She has performed orchestral, solo, and chamber works in festivals throughout Europe, including Spoleto dei Due Mondi (Spoleto, Italy), Bachakademie, (Stuttgart, Germany), and the American Conservatory (Fontainebleau, France). In the U.S., she has performed at the Spoleto festival (Charleston, SC) and the Crested Butte Festival (Colorado). Ms. Mikhlin is a tenured member of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra and freelances regularly with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the National Philharmonic, Washington National Opera, Washington Concert Opera and Wolf Trap Orchestra. A sought after teacher, She is a faculty member at Levine School and an adjunct professor at the Anne Arundel Community College.

Joan Singer, *violin*, has performed in concert in England, France, Mexico, Italy, Holland, Germany, Costa Rica, Guatemala, India, Sikkim, Uruguay and Argentina, as well as throughout the United States. Since founding QuinTango, she has become a record producer, tour manager, grant administrator, arts panelist, and Master Teaching Artist, realizing her dreams of combining music performance, travel, and writing.

Emmanuel Trifilio, *bandoneon*, composer and arranger, came to D.C. from his native Argentina in 2009 to perform at GALA Hispanic Theater. He has since performed as soloist with the Octavio Brunetti Orchestra, Choral Arts Society, QuinTango, National Philharmonic Orchestra, and Pan-American Symphony and in concert at Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center’s Midsummer Night’s Swing, and with orchestras in Miami and Havana, Cuba. His CD ORIGINAL received a Grammy nomination.