

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS
Boyer College of Music and Dance

**Workshop
andPlay, string duo**

**September 29, 2021
Rock Hall Auditorium**

**Wednesday
1:00 pm**

About the Artists

andPlay is committed to expanding the existing violin/viola duo repertoire by commissioning new works and actively collaborating with living artists. The New York City-based duo of Maya Bennardo, violin, and Hannah Levinson, viola, first played to an eager crowd on Fire Island in the summer of 2012 and has since commissioned over forty works.

andPlay has collaborated closely with numerous composers, including Scott Wollschleger, Victoria Cheah, Clara Iannotta, David Bird, Bethany Younge and Sky Macklay, and consider those relationships to be an integral part of their artistic process. Their current season includes a return to in-perform events and touring, with andPlay performing in Pennsylvania, Texas, California, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and New York. andPlay will perform new premieres this season by Shawn Jaeger, James Parker, Mariel Roberts, Lester St. Louis, and Maya Bennardo.

andPlay's debut album, *playlist* (2019, New Focus Recordings), features world premiere studio recordings of works by Ashkan Behzadi, David Bird, and Clara Iannotta. *playlist* was recorded as part of andPlay's Artist Residency at EMPAC (Troy, NY) and was listed on Bandcamp's "Best Contemporary Classical: October 2019."

Recent highlights include a five-city tour in Sweden performing their Translucent Harmonies program, appearances on the Oh My Ears Festival (Phoenix) and Re:Sound Festival (Cleveland), and a recording residency at EMPAC (Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center, Troy, NY). The duo has also performed at venues including the Center for New Music (San Francisco), Scandinavia House (New York), Roulette (New York), Monk Space (Los Angeles), Short North Stage (Columbus), and Aftershock Theater (Pittsburgh).

Beyond the concert stage, Maya and Hannah are passionate educators offering workshops in contemporary string techniques, chamber music coaching and composition notation for strings. They have given performances and masterclasses at Arizona State University, UC Santa Cruz, Western Connecticut State University, Otterbein University, Bowling Green State University and were Artists-in-Residence at the Snow Pond Composers Workshop (Sidney, ME).

Their audience engagement series, *andPlay (in) Conversation*, includes events like graphic score workshops for children, and opportunities to look inside the collaborative process as composers write new works for andPlay. andPlay was a semi-finalist in the 2016 Concert Artists Guild Victor Emaleh Competition and was the recipient of a 2016 CMA Classical Commissioning grant with composer Ravi Kittappa, made possible by the Chamber Music America Classical Commissioning Program, with generous funding provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Chamber Music America Endowment Fund.

Maya and Hannah met while studying at Oberlin Conservatory and continued their educations at New York University and the Manhattan School of Music.

Eleventh performance of the 2021-2022 season.

