



MetLiveArts

Image: Johnny Gandelsman, photo by Marco Giannavola

Johnny Gandelsman Plays Bach

Sonatas and Partitas for violin

Suites for cello, transcribed for violin

May 22–25, 2023

Fuentidueña Chapel at The Met Cloisters

This program is made possible by the Grace Jarcho Ross and Daniel G. Ross Concert Fund.

In 2015, I began a three-year journey dedicated to J. S. Bach's Sonatas and Partitas. After recording them, and playing all of them in concert, I wasn't ready to move on, so I dedicated the next four years to learning, recording and performing Bach's complete cello suites on violin. To experience performing both sets at a single venue has recently become a dream. Now, this dream has become a reality at The Met Cloisters. Please enjoy what I hope will be a memorable journey through some of Bach's most personal and joyful works.

—Johnny Gandelsman

Program

Monday, May 22, 2023 at 7 pm

Johnny Gandelsman, violin

Sonata No. 1 in G minor, BWV 1001

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Adagio
Fuga – Allegro
Siciliana
Presto

Partita No. 1 in B minor, BWV 1002

J. S. Bach

Allemande
Double
Corrente
Double – Presto
Sarabande
Double
Tempo di Borea
Double

Sonata No. 2 in A minor, BWV 1003

J. S. Bach

Grave
Fuga
Andante
Allegro

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This is the first night of Johnny Gandelsman's Bach series at The Met Cloisters. Join us for the remaining performances:

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 7 pm

Sonata No. 3, Partitas Nos. 2 and 3

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 7 pm

Cello Suites Nos. 1–3, transcribed for violin

Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 7 pm

Cello Suites Nos. 4–6, transcribed for violin

About the Artist

Grammy Award-winning violinist and producer Johnny Gandelsman's musical voice reflects the artistic collaborations he has been a part of since moving to the United States in 1995. Richard Brody of *The New Yorker* has called Johnny Gandelsman "revelatory" in concert, placing him in the company of "radically transformative" performers like Maurizio Pollini, Peter Serkin and Christian Zacharias.

In 2022, Johnny released his latest solo album, *This Is America: An Anthology 2020-2021*. Debuting at No. 2 on *Billboard's* Traditional Classical Charts, this three-CD release features almost four hours of new music for violin written for Gandelsman during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. *Gramophone Magazine* called it "potentially one of the important albums of our time" and *Pitchfork* praised it for "crystallizing a new vision for American classical music."

Gandelsman integrates a wide range of creative sensibilities into a unique style amongst today's violinists, one that according to *The Boston Globe*, possesses "a balletic lightness of touch and a sense of whimsy and imagination." Johnny's recording of Bach's complete Sonatas and Partitas for Solo Violin, which reached No. 1 on the *Billboard* Classical Chart and made it onto Best of the Year lists from both *New York Magazine* and *The New York Times*, was described by *The Boston Globe* as "...sparklingly personal Bach, shorn of grandeur, lofted by a spirit of dance, and as predictable as the flight of a swallow."

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Current as of May 2023

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