



MetLiveArts

Image: Johnny Gandelman, photo by Marco Giannavola

Johnny Gandelman 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 Gandelman

Program

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 7 pm

Johnny Gandelman, violin

Suite No. 1 in G major for cello, BWV 1007 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
transposed to D major and transcribed for violin

Prelude
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Menuet I and II
Gigue

Suite No. 2 in D minor for cello, BWV 1008

J. S. Bach

transposed to A major and transcribed for violin

Prelude
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Menuet I and II
Gigue

Suite No. 3 in C major for cello, BWV 1009

J. S. Bach

transposed to G major and transcribed for violin

Prelude
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Bourrée I and II
Gigue

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This is the third night of Johnny Gandelman's Bach series at The Met Cloisters. Join us for the remaining performance:

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 Gandelman'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 Gandelman "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 Gandelman 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."

Gandelman 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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