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## THE FINALE OF THE EPIC SPRING 2022 SEASON



**EPIC's Spring Season comes to a rousing conclusion with these amazing stars!**

**Kaleidoscope | May 20, 7:00 p.m., | The Venue at Almagre**

For one night only, Colorado Symphony's Assistant Concertmaster Yi Zhao, Matthew Eckenhoff (horn), Allison Drenkow (cello), are joined with percussionist Andrew Ferdig who together will engage audiences with music of vastly different styles - a Kaleidoscope of music. Highlights of the program include a crowd pleasing Martinu quartet for clarinet, horn, cello and snare drum and a mesmerizing work by Kevin Puts called *And Legions Will Rise*.

**Tickets at [epicmustsee.org](https://epicmustsee.org).**



**SOUNDS OF FINLAND**  
**APRIL 15, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**The Venue at Almagre**



**Welcome to EPIC. Whether this is your first concert or you are a regular subscriber, we're so glad you're here!**



Our trademark is fun, eclectic and inclusive programming...always! Inviting world-renowned guest artists to perform is becoming the hallmark of what EPIC is all about.

Petteri Iivonen is an absolutely authentic and virtuosic musical voice. He performs as soloist with prominent European orchestras on a monthly basis and finding a week to visit Colorado was a difficult task to accomplish, but we did it!

Andrew Staupé is an acclaimed pianist and played a concerto with Colorado Springs Philharmonic a few years back. He only had three days in his very busy schedule to visit us and I am so happy to collaborate with him. His piano playing has rare clarity and refinement, it's a wonderful treat to have him join forces with Petteri.

As you may know, things have changed for me. My home country of Ukraine has been under attack from Russian forces. We are at war! It has been a difficult time since I last saw you all in February. But, I always find solace in music, and the work that I do as artistic director has helped me shift focus away from the atrocities. I want to thank you for the many kind words I've received. The EPIC community is truly a blessing to me and my family. I cannot thank you enough!

As always, please come by and say hello any time before, during, or after the concert!

Sincerely Yours,

Sergei Vassiliev, EPIC Artistic Director.

**Concertmaster Petteri Iivonen** Hailed by *Il Gazzettino* as an artist with “flawless technique along with expressive interpretation,” a native of Finland, Iivonen has been praised for his “control and emotional sensitivity” and “colorful details and thoughtful phrasing” (*Helsingin Sanomat*).

Silver Medalist and Special Prize winner at the 10th International Jean Sibelius Violin Competition in 2010, Iivonen holds the honor of becoming only the second Finnish violinist to win a medal in the history of the competition. He also remains the youngest winner of the quinquennial Kuopio National Violin Competition.

Highlights of Iivonen’s career include his appearances as soloist with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Deutsche Staatsphilharmonie Rheinland-Pfalz, Royal Chamber Orchestra of Wallonia in Belgium, New European Ensemble in Netherlands, as well as Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra. In addition to others, he has performed with all the major orchestras in Finland including the Helsinki and Turku Philharmonic Orchestras, Lahti and Oulu Symphony Orchestras, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and the Tapiola Sinfonietta.

Iivonen plays a 1755 G.B. Guadagnini through the generosity of the Finnish Cultural Foundation. To learn more about Iivonen visit [petteriivonen.com](http://petteriivonen.com).

**Pianist Andrew Staupe** is emerging as one of the distinctive voices of a new generation of pianists and has appeared as soloist with many of the top orchestras throughout the United States and in Europe. He has collaborated with distinguished conductors Osmo Vänskä, Cristian Macelaru, Jahja Ling, Gerard Schwarz, Andrew Litton, Lucas Richman, Josep-Caballe Domenech, and Philip Mann.

An avid chamber musician, Staupe has jammed with legendary vocalist Bobby McFerrin, played Tangos with the Assad Brothers, and others. He recently recorded his debut CD with violinist Hasse Borup for the Naxos label in Copenhagen and has a keen interest in performing new music and has collaborated with composers Howard Shore, Augusta Read Thomas, Yehudi Wyner, Sarah Kirkland Snider, Pierre Jalbert, Richard Lavenda, and Christopher Walczak among others.

Deeply committed to teaching, he is an Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Houston. He is Artistic Director of the Young Artist World Piano Festival in Minnesota, and gives frequent master classes and lectures around the U.S. A native of Saint Paul, Minnesota, he earned his Doctorate at Rice University with Jon Kimura Parker, and also studied at the University of Minnesota with Lydia Artymiw. Visit [gingarts.com/artists/andrew-staupe](http://gingarts.com/artists/andrew-staupe) to learn more.

Iivonen plays a 1755 G.B. Guadagnini through the generosity of the Finnish Cultural Foundation. To learn more about Iivonen visit [petteriivonen.com](http://petteriivonen.com).



**EPIC Spring Season 2022**  
**Sounds of Finland**  
**Petteri Iivonen, April 15, 16 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Performed by:  
Petteri Iivonen, violin  
Andrew Staupe, piano  
Sergei Vassiliev, clarinet  
[epicmustsee.org](http://epicmustsee.org)

Jean Sibelius	<i>Impromptu in b minor, Op. 5 for solo piano</i>
Germaine Tailleferre	<i>Rêverie for solo piano</i>
Jean Sibelius	<i>Dances Champêtres, Op. 106 for violin and piano</i>
15 Minute Break (Time for a refill)	
Bela Bartok	<i>Contrasts for clarinet, violin, and piano</i>

**Production by Natalie Boggs, Nate Cuccaro, Michael Mehall, Larry Jones.**

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**Consider EPIC for your charitable giving.** EPIC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit performing arts organization and 100% of every monetary donation is tax-deductible. Funds raised help us host world-renowned, classical music artists to pair with local stars through innovative programming you won't hear anywhere else in Colorado Springs. Plus, your donation enables us to grow our audience and create unique experiences. **Donate today at [epicmustsee.org](http://epicmustsee.org) or P.O. Box 25383, Colorado Springs, CO 80936.**