



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES NEW MUSICIANS  
FOR THE 2023-2024 SEASON**

**ATLANTA** – The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) will welcome two new tenure-track musicians to the Orchestra for the 2023-24 season.

The musicians joining the ASO for the 79<sup>th</sup> season this September are:

- Michael Jarrett, Assistant Principal Percussion
- Ray Kim, Cello

In addition, Jonathan Gentry, second oboe, will join the orchestra in September in a one-year, non-tenure track position.

“We are extremely pleased to welcome Michael, Ray, and Jonathan,” said Executive Director Jennifer Barlament. “The process of filling positions in the ASO is extremely rigorous, and we are delighted that these fine musicians are making Atlanta their musical home.”

**About the New Musicians:** [Artists | Atlanta Symphony Orchestra \(aso.org\)](#)

**Michael Jarrett**

Michael Jarrett has been a member of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra percussion section, in Vancouver, British Columbia, since the fall of 2017. Prior to joining the VSO, Michael was a percussion fellow during the 2016-2017 season with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida. Michael has made guest appearances with several orchestras across North America, such as the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony, and the Toronto Symphony.

Growing up in Atlanta, Georgia, Michael began studying drum kit and percussion at the age of 11. During his high school years, Michael became a member of the ASYO. He is a two-time winner of the Atlanta Symphony Modern Snare Drum Competition, and gave his first concerto performance with the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra at age 17.

Michael has earned degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music, and the Manhattan School of Music. During his time as a student, Michael was selected to perform with the National Repertory Orchestra (2016), the Tanglewood Music Festival (2015), and the Music Academy of the West (2012, 2013).

### **Ray Kim**

A native of South Korea, Hyugrai “Ray” Kim was the First Prize winner in the Korean Music Concours and Third Prize winner in the Pho-Ne Classic Competition in Korea. Mr. Kim made his debut with the Seoul Royal Symphony Orchestra at the Young-San Art Hall in 2004 playing Haydn’s Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in C major.

His festival appearances include Pacific Music Festival, Colorado College Summer Music Festival, Caroga Lake Music Festival, Austin Camerata, and Festival Mozaic, among others. Mr. Kim holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music (BM), the Eastman School of Music (MM), and the Butler School of Music (DMA). During his time at Eastman and UT, Mr. Kim served as a teaching assistant to Steven Doane and Bion Tsang, respectively.

### **Jonathan Gentry**

Jonathan Gentry joined the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra as second oboe at the start of the 2023-24 season. Prior to this appointment, he held the position of principal oboe with both the Sarasota Orchestra and the Louisiana Philharmonic. He has also appeared as Guest Principal with the Florida Orchestra, as well as a substitute with the Fort Worth and San Diego Symphonies.

As a soloist, he has performed the Haydn Sinfonia Concertante with the National Repertory Orchestra. Other concerto appearances include the Vaughan-Williams Concerto with the East Texas Symphony, Pasculli’s “La Favorita” Concerto with the Brazos Valley Symphony, and the Mozart Concerto with the Plano Symphony and the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. As a chamber musician, he was a founding member of Tangent Winds, a New York-based wind quintet, which placed third in the 2018 Fischhoff National Chamber Competition.

Jonathan holds degrees from the New England Conservatory and The Juilliard School. He has attended numerous festivals such as the Verbier Festival, the National Repertory Orchestra, the Music Academy of the West, the Aspen Music Festival and School, the Round Top Festival Institute, and the National Orchestral Institute. He is especially grateful for the many transformative teachers in his life, and has received tutelage from John Ferrillo, Nathan Hughes, Elaine Douvas, Erin Hannigan, Linda Strommen, Anne Marie Gabriele, and Scott Hostetler.

### **ABOUT THE ASO**

Under the leadership of Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) offers live performances, media initiatives, and learning programs that unite, educate and enrich our community through the engaging and transformative power of orchestral music experiences. The ASO engages the diverse international community of our city, bringing people together in harmony—including our youngest citizens, with extensive opportunities for youth and families to fall in love with music. Two of the hallmark education programs celebrate anniversaries this season: the Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra celebrates 50 years and the Talent Development Program turns 30.

The Orchestra's range and depth are featured in more than 150 concerts each year, including the flagship Delta Classical Series, Movies in Concert, Family Concerts, Coca-Cola Holiday series, and many community and education concerts. In addition, the ASO presents many vibrant, wide-ranging events and artists through its Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall Live presentations. The ASO also performs with the ASO Chorus, originally founded by Robert Shaw, and currently under the direction of Norman Mackenzie. The Chorus is featured on nine of the ASO's 27 Grammy® Award-winning recordings.

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