

PRESS RELEASE

Sei Solo 2020

12 original solo compositions- 6 for violin and 6 for cello

Release date: December 30, 2022

Ada Classical announces the upcoming release of a premiere double-CD set *Sei Solo 2020* on December 30th. These 12 new solo works were commissioned by Klasik Keyifler (KK) at the beginning of the pandemic, and recorded in the Ada Müzik Studios in Istanbul. KK is a Turkish NGO supporting young classical performers and composers. They also organize a festival in Cappadocia.

All of the composers and performers featured on these albums have been associated with KK at some point over the last decade. These composers now reside all over the world and represent a wide spectrum of current compositional voices and styles. The 6 performers chosen to learn these new works are each engaged in exciting and unique performing careers.

The title ‘Sei Solo’ is extracted from Bach’s hand-written title page to his monumental solo works for violin dated 1720. The full title ‘Sei Solo a Violino senza Basso’ refers to a set of 6, but some musicians speculate the term ‘Sei Solo’ to have additional meanings of ‘You are alone’ in Italian and ‘Be Alone’ in German. When the Covid pandemic hit KK was in the midst of planning a celebration of their 10th summer music festival in Cappadocia and expecting to include the 300-year commemoration of these Bach works. This concept of ‘Be Alone’ took on a new meaning when performance life came to a sudden stop. As an NGO dedicated to developing performance projects, KK could recognize the urgent need to support young musicians both economically and creatively, and offered the collaborative opportunities to this diverse group of 18 musicians.

Violinist **Ayşen Ulucan**, lives in England and works with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and BBC Symphony Orchestra among others. She performs *5 Fragments for Vocalizing Violinist* by **Camilo Mendez**, a Harvard graduate currently on the HKBU faculty in Hong Kong; and *What Makes an Ocean* by **Didem Çoşkuseven**, who is currently at IRCAM in Paris and is finishing a Ph.D from UC Berkeley. Violinist and conductor **Kerem Tuncer**, lives in Berlin where he was one of the first young artists to be accepted to the Barenboim-Said Akademie. He performs *Ephemeral Qualia* by **Can Bilir**, a Cornell graduate currently on a fellowship at Chulalongkorn University Bangkok; and *Economic Offering* by **Mert Moralı** who studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London as well at the Hans Eisler Conservatory of Music in Berlin where he currently resides. Violinist **Muhammedjan Sharipov**, did his graduate work at the

Mozarteum in Salzburg and performs regularly with the Balthasar Neumann Ensemble. He performs *Non Whispering* by **Mert Kocadayı**, who lives in Salzburg and is a graduate student at the Mozarteum; and *Nearby* by **Engin Dağlık** who pursues his doctorate at Stanford and is also an active performer involved with sound art and installations.

Cellist **Gökhan Bağcı** lives in Antalya and is a member of the contemporary group Hezarfen Ensemble, the Borusan Orchestra and the Antalya Symphony. He performs *Some Melodies* by **Can Kazaz**, who is also a popular indie performer/writer living in Istanbul; and *This Feeling of Déjà Vu* by **Senay Uğurlu**, a graduate of Bilkent University recently on a fellowship at the Lucerne Festival Academy. Cellist **Dorukhan Doruk** is a DAAD recipient, a prize winner in the Lutoslawski Competition, and was recently appointed as solo cellist in the Tonhalle Düsseldorf. He performs *Galanterie Redux* by **Alican Çamcı**, who holds a Ph.D from University of Chicago and is currently on the faculty of Carleton College near Minneapolis; and *Latent* by **Aida Shirazi**, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of California-Davis and founder of the Iranian Female Composers Association. Cellist **Poyraz Baltacıgil** is associate principal of the Borusan Orchestra in Istanbul and recently completed a European tour as soloist with the Turkish Youth Orchestra. He performs *Anamnesis* by **Hakki Cengiz Eren**, who holds degrees from Peabody Institute and the University of Southern California, and is currently on the faculty at Middle East University in Cyprus; and *Passage to Ghostland* by **Idil Özkan** who is a pianist, studied psychology at Bosphorus University and currently leads interdisciplinary seminars on music and the power of emotions.

This project was conceived by KK's founder and violinist **Ellen Jewett**, with the consultation and co-production of Bilkent University professor and composer, **Onur Turkmen**. Sound engineer **Kıvılcım Konca** did the recording and mixing, and the general organization was provided by **Üçhan Art Production**. **Dilara Turan** provided the archiving of the recording process. This project was partially financed by Chamber Music Exchange (a US-based non profit organization), and the Engle Family Foundation.

This 2-CD set will be available December 30th on all streaming platforms.

<https://www.kk-music-en.org/sei-solo-be-alone>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=SeiSolo>