

Violist **Willy Sucre** is a member of the New Mexico Philharmonic and is the driving force behind the "Willy Sucre & Friends" concerts. Born in La Paz, Bolivia, Sucre studied at the Conservatorio Nacional de Música in La Paz; Colby College Chamber Music Institute in Waterville, Maine; Mannes School of Music in New York; and the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Maryland.

He was conductor and music director of the Albuquerque Philharmonic Orchestra, assistant conductor and principal violist of the Canada Symphony Orchestra in Montreal, assistant conductor and assistant principal violist of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, and principal violist and guest conductor of the National Symphony of Bolivia, the Chamber Orchestra of La Paz, and the Albuquerque Chamber Orchestra. As a chamber musician, Sucre was the founder of the Cuarteto Boliviano, guest violist with various chamber music ensembles, and for ten years the violist of the Helios String Quartet.

Sucre's experience includes extensive chamber music concerts, lectures, school demonstrations, CD recordings, and television performances throughout South, Central, and North America. He spends most of his summers in South America looking for new works of chamber music by modern composers and encouraging composers to write new pieces, especially piano quartets. He enjoys performing with ensembles of diverse instrumentation.

Albuquerque native **Lisa Donald** has played cello in the local area for over 20 years. Her musical studies as a young adult took her all over the Southwest, and to Miami, Florida; and Kansas City, Missouri. After living and performing in New York City, she returned to Albuquerque to be near family and has been playing with regional orchestras and Opera Southwest, as well as producing and performing in smaller chamber and solo recitals. She teaches cello privately.

Violinist **Carol Swift-Matton** is a native of Toledo, Ohio. She holds degrees in violin performance from the Eastman School of Music and Ohio University. Carol is currently assistant principal second violin of the New Mexico Philharmonic and held the same position as a member of the former New Mexico Symphony Orchestra. She is also a member of the Santa Fe Symphony and often performs at Chatter Sunday in Albuquerque. Previously she served as principal second violin of the Chamber Orchestra of Albuquerque and held the same title in the Chamber Orchestra of Oklahoma City. Her past orchestral experience includes positions in the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra, the Grand Rapids Symphony, and the Toledo Symphony. Carol has also played every summer since 1987 in the orchestra of the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music in Santa Cruz.

**Justin Pollak**, a native of Santa Fe, first studied the violin under Catherine Nichols. As a student at the University of New Mexico, he studied with Leonard Felberg and Bernard Zinck, as well as Kimberly Fredenburgh on the viola. From 2001 to 2011, he was a violinist with the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra. Justin is currently a member of the Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra and the New Mexico Philharmonic. He frequently performs with Chatter on both violin and viola. In the winter and spring of 2012, he played concerts with the Figueroa Project and Opera Southwest.

Cellist **David Schepps** has performed in solo and chamber concerts at Lincoln Center, at the Grand Teton Festival, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, and the Kansas summer festival "Chamber Music at the Barn." He has performed with the Santa Fe Symphony, the Chamber Orchestra of Albuquerque, and the New Mexico Philharmonic. He joined the faculty of the University of New Mexico in 1999, and serves as Associate Professor of Cello Prior to accepting the post at UNM, Schepps was a professor and quartet cellist at the School of Music at Wichita State University and Principal Cellist with the Wichita Symphony. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Mannes College of Music in New York and a Doctor of Musical Arts in performance from Arizona State University. Schepps has served as a college professor, soloist, and chamber musician since the mid-1980s, has organized many chamber festivals, and won numerous awards and competitions through the years.

Violinist **Krzysztof Zimowski** is currently the concertmaster of the New Mexico Philharmonic and Opera Southwest Orchestra. For more than a decade, he was the concertmaster and featured soloist of the former New Mexico Symphony Orchestra.

Born in Wroclaw, Poland, he began his musical studies at the age of six. In 1977 he received his master's degree with honors from the Academy of Music in Wroclaw. After participating in the 1978 Carl Flesch International Violin Competition, he continued his studies at the Morley College of Music in London. Having been concertmaster of the State Opera Orchestra in Wroclaw, Zimowski joined the Mexico City Philharmonic Orchestra in 1981. In 1985 he was appointed concertmaster of that orchestra and toured Europe, South America, and the United States. He moved to New Mexico in 1986 to help form the Helios String Quartet, the ensemble-in-residence of the Placitas Artists Series until 1997. Zimowski lives in Albuquerque with his wife, Urszula, also a musician.