



1776 Broadway, Suite 1500, New York, NY 10019
212.307.6657 | management@yca.org | www.yca.org

YCA on Tour 2026-2027 | Accordion plus Strings

YCA on Tour is an extraordinary and unique chamber music touring ensemble that is made up of the incredible talent of both current YCA artists and esteemed alumni from the YCA family. This unique initiative brings together the brightest emerging musicians and the seasoned veterans who have already made a significant impact in the classical music world. YCA on Tour programs offer audiences a truly remarkable musical experience; featuring ensembles of unique instrumentation playing repertoire that spans a wide range of musical styles and genres that is rarely heard on tour. Each concert is thoughtfully designed to highlight the strengths and individuality of each performer. Rather than more commonly heard ad hoc ensembles, YCA on Tour groups are established ensembles that not only plan programs multiple seasons in advance, but also rehearse and explore the repertoire intensely over an unusually long rehearsal period prior to any touring activity. This investment in the rehearsal process results in profound musical discoveries that offer audiences astoundingly high-quality performances of rarely heard works.

Following a March 2023 sneak peak of the inaugural YCA on Tour group at Merkin Hall in New York City, an ensemble of five YCA artists embarked on a twelve city tour presenting a program of works for voices, violin, cello, and piano with venues and presenters across the country including the Asheville Chamber Music Society, Clarion Concerts, Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, Newport Classical, Utsey Chamber Music Series at Clemson University, Pepperdine University in Malibu, California, BIG ARTS Sanibel Island, and more.

~

Risa Hokamura began studying violin at the age of three and, by ten, had won top prizes in competitions across Japan. At seventeen, she gained international recognition as winner of the 2018 Young Concert Artists Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, also receiving the Tannery Pond Concerts Prize, The Ruth Laredo Memorial Prize, and The Ronald A. Asherson Prize. That same year, she won the Silver Medal at the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, performing with the Indianapolis Symphony under Leonard Slatkin.

Since then, she has appeared as concerto soloist with the East Coast Chamber Orchestra, Kennett Symphony, The Apollo Orchestra, Greensboro Symphony, Muncie Symphony, Kanagawa Philharmonic, New Japan Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, Kansai Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony, and Sapporo Symphony. Recent highlights include Symphonicity in Virginia Beach, with upcoming performances of Brahms' Violin Concerto with the Aiken Symphony.

Her recital debuts include Merkin Hall in New York, the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater in Washington, D.C., and Kioi Hall in Tokyo, where she performed all six Ysaÿe Sonatas. She has also appeared at The Morgan Library & Museum, Caramoor, Buffalo Chamber Music Society, Port Washington Library, Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, and the University of Florida Performing Arts.

NOTE: When editing, please do not delete references to Young Concert Artists, nor special prizes.
Please do not use previously dated biographies.

08/2025

An avid chamber musician, Risa has performed at Music@Menlo, Clarion Concerts, Newport Classical, Chamber Music Lehigh Valley, BIG ARTS Sanibel Island, Arts at Abingdon, and Arts Council of Moore County. Upcoming YCA chamber performances include the Salk Science & Music Series, Kravis Center, Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center, Mobile Chamber Music, and Calgary Pro Musica.

A native of Japan, Risa studies at the Manhattan School of Music with Koichiro Harada and Lucie Robert, with additional studies under Cho-Liang Lin. She performs on the 1715 “Joachim” Stradivarius (Nippon Music Foundation) and the 1734 “Ames-Totenberg” Stradivarius (Rare Violins In Consortium)

~

Violinist **Lun Li** is committed to creating thought-provoking, boundary-pushing concert experiences for contemporary audiences. A native of Shanghai, he won the 2021 Young Concert Artists Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, along with the Paul A. Fish Memorial Prize, the Buffalo Chamber Music Society Prize, and was named John French Violin Chair at YCA.

He has appeared as concerto soloist with the Bangor Symphony, Kennett Square Symphony, Colgate University Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, Meridian Symphony, Salina Symphony, and McCall Summer Festival Orchestra, as well as with the Brevard Philharmonic, Aiken Symphony, University of South Carolina Symphony, Salisbury Symphony, and the Riverside Symphony at Alice Tully Hall. Upcoming concerto appearances include the Kyoto and Osaka Symphonies.

Lun made his New York recital debut at Merkin Hall and his Washington, D.C. debut at the Kennedy Center’s Terrace Theater, both presented by Young Concert Artists. He has since appeared at The Morgan Library & Museum, Caramoor, Brookings Chamber Music Society, Brooklyn Chamber Music Society, Bay Chamber Concerts, Tippet Rise Art Center, and with the Jupiter Chamber Players. He also collaborated with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and performer Du Yun at the Asia Society in New York. Internationally, he has **also** performed at Konzerthaus Berlin, Wiener Konzerthaus, and Kulturpalast Dresden.

This season, Lun was featured on the opening night of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center at Alice Tully Hall. A member of CMS’s Bowers Program, he has toured extensively with the Society, including in China.

Lun holds degrees from the Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School, where he completed an Artist Diploma as teaching assistant to Catherine Cho. He performs on the 1735 “Samazeuilh” Stradivarius, generously on loan from the Nippon Music Foundation.

~

Winner of the 2024 YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, accordionist **Radu Ratoi** began playing at age six in his hometown in Moldova. He has since won over 60 national and international awards, including first prizes at six of the world’s most prestigious accordion competitions: Coupe Mondiale, Klingenthal, Trophy Mondiale, Arrasate, PIF Castelfidardo, and the Moscow Accordion Competition.

Renowned for his originality, versatility, and virtuosity in both classical and contemporary repertoire, Radu received the “Excellence Diploma” in 2018 and the Moldovan National Distinction “Master in Arts” in 2022, awarded by the President of Moldova.

NOTE: When editing, please do not delete references to Young Concert Artists, nor special prizes.
Please do not use previously dated biographies.

He studied at the Royal Danish Academy of Music, where he won the Sonning Music Prize, one of Denmark's top honors. His artistry blends the Russian and Western European musical traditions into a distinctive personal style.

Radu's 2022 debut album, *Greatest Organ Works Arranged for Accordion*, features works by J.S. Bach and F. Liszt. His transcriptions of pieces by Bach, Scarlatti, Rameau, Liszt, and others continue to expand and redefine the accordion repertoire.

A compelling soloist and chamber musician, Radu has performed in world-renowned venues such as the Berlin Philharmonic, Copenhagen's Radio Concert House, and Victoria Concert Hall. In 2024, he became a soloist with the National Chamber Orchestra of Moldova.

In the 2025–26 season, Radu will appear at the Usedom Music Festival, Parlance Chamber Concerts, Merkin Hall, and the Kennedy Center,. He will debut as concerto soloist with the Southwest German Radio Symphony, Mobile Symphony, and Westmoreland Symphony.

~

Australian cellist **Benett Tsai** has been praised for “electrifying...flawless freshness” (*Süddeutsche Zeitung*) and “charismatic, heartfelt playing” (*Sydney Arts Guide*). Named one of Limelight Magazine's “next generation young musicians,” he gained international recognition at the 2022 Grand Prix Emanuel Feuermann, winning Third Prize and the Special Prize for Best Haydn Concerto as the youngest participant. In 2023, he joined Young Concert Artists (YCA) after winning the YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions. As an inaugural YCA Jacobs Fellow, he holds the Anne & George Popkin Cello Chair and received The Stern Young Artist Award.

Debuting at thirteen, Benett has performed as a soloist and chamber musician with the Berlin Radio Symphony, Sinfonia Lahti, Kammerphilharmonie Metamorphosen Berlin, Canberra Symphony, and the Australian Chamber Orchestra Academy. Recital appearances include the Berliner Philharmonie, Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, Helsinki Music Centre, and Melbourne Recital Centre. In 2020, he was featured in *The Way Forward* documentary, performing with Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

Recent highlights include concerts with the Queensland, Maryland, Anchorage, and Kennett symphonies, and an Australian tour with Kathryn Selby & Friends. He performed Shostakovich's First Cello Concerto with the Colburn Orchestra and Esa-Pekka Salonen and appeared at the Verbier Festival Academy.

In 25–26, Benett tours North America with recital engagements at Arizona Friends of Chamber Music, Classical Arts Society of Washington, and Friends of Music and tours with YCA's chamber music ensemble, YCA on Tour.

Born in 2003, Benett began cello studies at five with his uncle Thomas Tsai and currently studies at the Colburn School with Clive Greensmith.