



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF SANTA MONICA

MID-WEEK RECITALS

ONLINE SERIES



SEPTEMBER
2025

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

12:10 p.m.

PHILIP VAIMAN, *violin*
BRENDAN WHITE, *piano*

Cantabile, Op. 17

Niccolo Paganini

Meditation from Thais

Jules Massenet

Vocalise from 14 songs, Op. 34

Sergei Rachmaninov

Nocturne Op. 27, No. 2 in D-flat Major

Frederic Chopin

Nocturne Op. 9, No. 2 in E-flat Major

Frederic Chopin

Nightclub 1960

Astor Piazzolla

The First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica welcomes you to this concert. To view this performance and other past concerts, go to: Facebook (@santamonicaumc); YouTube (@SantaMonicaUMC); the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series; or the First UMC App: App Store, search FirstUMC_SM

About The Artists

The professional career of violinist **Philip Vaiman** has taken him to concert halls around the globe and premier recording studios. In his performances he demonstrates his great desire for expressive and imaginative music-making. Vaiman's profound musicality and unlimited technical possibilities have captured audiences in Europe, America, and Asia.

Philip Vaiman has been the recipient of many awards such as: "The Award of the Leni Fe Bland Foundation," "The Sophia Guzik Foundation Award," "The Julia F. Lotze Prize for String Players," "The Winner of the Atwater Kent Concerto Competition," "The Leroy Collins Memorial Scholarship," "The Member of the Pi Kappa Lambda the National Music Honor Society," and "The Silver Medalist of the 2023 Euterpe Music Awards."

Philip started playing violin at the age of four. At the age of five, he was admitted to the Gnesin Academy of Music, and had his first public appearance at the age of seven. By the time he graduated from the renowned academy, he had performed as a soloist and chamber musician in England, Israel, Russia, and Cyprus. Philip continued his education at the Maymonedes Academy, UCLA, and USC, graduating Cum Laude with a Master's Degree in Music.

Philip has performed in major halls across the world and at international festivals including The Huddersfield International Music Festival in England, The Spoleto Music Festival in Italy, The Music Festival of Pitea in Sweden, The Hvar International Summer Festival in Croatia, The Soesterberg International Music Festival in the Netherlands, and the Bruman Chamber Music Festival in California. Since 2018, Philip has been a Grammy Voting Member at the Recording Academy. Philip Vaiman stays active as a soloist, chamber music performer, and recording artist.

Originally from Tennessee, **Brendan White** enjoys the diverse life of a pianist in Los Angeles, where he combines his love of the traditional classical piano repertoire with an avid interest in genre-bending modern and experimental music. White studied with Alice Jackson in Tennessee before attending the Eastman School of Music to study with Thomas Schumacher and then University of Southern California with Kevin Fitz-Gerald, where he was awarded Outstanding Master's Graduate of the Thornton School of Music.

He has performed as soloist with the Jackson Symphony Orchestra, Eastman's Musica Nova, and the Delta Symphony Orchestra. As a devoted performer of new music, he has worked with notable composers and conductors including Thomas Adès, Donald Crockett, Alan Pierson, Steven Stucky and Jeffrey Milarsky.

In addition to playing piano, White can occasionally be spotted as a secret organist, percussionist, or tenor.

To see complete bios, visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series

MID-WEEK RECITALS

2025-26 Schedule

- Sept 10 **Philip Vaiman**, violin
Oct 8 **Classical Gass**, cello, guitar, and bass
Nov 12 **Laurent Jochum**, organ
Dec 10 **Meagan Martin**, mezzo soprano
Jan 14 **Noah Sonderling**, piano
Feb 11 **Gold Line Saxophone Quartet**
Mar 11 **Sangam: Paul Livingstone**, sitar; **Peter Jacobson**, cello
Apr 8 **Trio Pacifico**, flute, guitar and cello
May 13 **Esther Yune, Susan Kim-Pedroza**, 4-hand piano



Presented by Dr. James E. Smith, First UMC Music Director, the Mid-Week Recital series is held online on the second Wednesdays of the month in the Fall and Spring. Recitals begin promptly at **12:10 p.m. online** then are available to view anytime afterwards.

HOW TO WATCH:

- Website: www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream
- Facebook: [@santamonicaumc](https://www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc)
- YouTube Channel: [@SantaMonicaUMC](https://www.youtube.com/SantaMonicaUMC)
- The First UMC App: (App Store, search [FirstUMC_SM](#))



First United Methodist Church welcomes you to all of our events
and invites you to join us for in-person and online worship on Sundays at 10 a.m.

To see full schedule of recitals,
and watch past recitals, visit:
[www.santamonicaumc.org/
mid-week-recital-series](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series)

  [@santamonicaumc](https://www.instagram.com/santamonicaumc)

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