

UC **SANTA BARBARA**
Department of Music

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UCSB DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC WELCOMES JENNIFER KLOETZEL AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CELLO

Juilliard School graduate and Fulbright scholar joins Strings and Chamber Music Faculty

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) June 27, 2018—The UC Santa Barbara Department of Music welcomes acclaimed cellist Jennifer Kloetzel as Assistant Professor of Cello beginning Fall 2018. Ms. Kloetzel's performance career spans over three decades and has included solo, chamber, and orchestral appearances throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. As a founding member of the Cypress String Quartet and an advocate for new music, Ms. Kloetzel has commissioned and premiered nearly 40 solo and chamber works by renowned composers such as Jennifer Higdon, Elena Ruehr, George Tsontakis, Kevin Puts, Philippe Hersant, and Daniel Asia. Having served as a Lecturer at UC Santa Barbara since Fall 2016, Ms. Kloetzel has performed on many Music Department concerts, including the department's recent collaboration with CAMA for the organization's Centennial Kickoff Celebration at Trinity Episcopal Church with fellow UCSB faculty members flutist Jill Felber and pianist Robert Koenig.

"Jennifer Kloetzel brings an unparalleled background to UCSB's Music Department as a world-class cellist, chamber musician, and educator. Her vision, passion, and integrity are beyond reproach and the Department of Music is extremely fortunate to have her join our faculty as we continue to explore new innovative and exciting directions," said Professor Koenig, who directs the Chamber Music Program at UCSB and serves as Vice Chair of the department.

In her new position at UCSB, Ms. Kloetzel will serve as Area Head of the Strings Program and will take on a leading role within the department's Chamber Music Program, one that will include the shaping of the unique Young Artists String Quartet program. Outside of UCSB, Ms. Kloetzel's 2018-2019 performance season will include appearances with the Icelandic Chamber Music Festival and the Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra, as well as the world-premiere of Lee Actor's Concerto for Violoncello and Orchestra with the Palo Alto Philharmonic.

"I am delighted to join the UCSB Music Department," said Ms. Kloetzel. "It is a thrill to be part of such a vibrant musical community with fantastic colleagues, and I look forward to guiding students and helping to shape their love of music-making and chamber music. After spending two summers at the Music Academy of the West as a young cellist, I dreamt of returning to the area. I am excited to make that dream a reality."

About Jennifer Kloetzel

A graduate of The Juilliard School and a Fulbright Scholar, cellist Jennifer Kloetzel has concertized throughout the United States, Europe and Asia as a soloist and chamber musician. A founding member of the San Francisco-based Cypress String Quartet (1996-2016), Ms. Kloetzel has toured the globe and performed at such renowned venues as Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Chautauqua Institute and the Ravinia Festival, the Lobkowitz Palaces in both Vienna and Prague, as well as prominent colleges and conservatories worldwide.

Ms. Kloetzel is noted for her elegant playing and her vibrant tone. She is a sought-after recitalist, performing recent concerts for San Francisco Performances and on WQXR in New York. *Strad Magazine* hailed, "Cellist Jennifer Kloetzel is impressively passionate..." A fervent champion of new music, she has received the Copland Award for her work with living American Composers and has commissioned and premiered nearly forty works, including five concertos written specifically for her. In the past few seasons, premieres included a Cello Suite by Daniel Asia and a Cello Concerto, "Cloud Atlas" and unaccompanied cello work "Lift," which were both written for her by MIT composer Elena Ruehr. The *San Jose Mercury News* proclaimed, "Cellist Jennifer Kloetzel shines in premiere" and called her a "terrific soloist...with a robust and earthy sound." Ms. Kloetzel has recorded the Ruehr Cello Concerto with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, which was released to critical acclaim in October 2014. "Lift" is the title track of an all-Ruehr disc, released on the Avie label, and was included on Keith Powers' *13 Best Classical Music Recordings of 2016*. Ms. Kloetzel will be the featured cellist on a 2018 Albany Records release of music by Richard Aldag, and will premiere Lee Actor's Cello Concerto, written for her in 2017. In the 2018-19 season, she will also give world premieres of sonatas written for her by composers Richard Aldag, Joseph Landers and Elena Ruehr.

Ms. Kloetzel is winner of The Juilliard School's top award, the "Peter Mennin Prize for Outstanding Leadership and Achievement in Music," and a Presser Music Award, as well as a Fulbright Grant to England. In 2004 she was honored with the McGraw-Hill Companies' "Robert Sherman Award for Music Education and Community Outreach" in recognition of years of outreach work in schools and community centers. She has appeared at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, the Sarasota and Aspen Music Festivals, the Britten-Pears School, the Prague Mozart Academy, and performed as cellist of the Cassatt Quartet during the 1995-96 season. From 2003-2009, Ms. Kloetzel taught cello and chamber music at San José State University, where the Cypress String Quartet was Ensemble-in-Residence. She has given master classes at The Juilliard School, San Francisco Conservatory and at universities throughout the U.S.

Growing up near Baltimore, Ms. Kloetzel began her cello studies at age six. Her teachers included Aldo Parisot, William Pleeth, Harvey Shapiro, Stephen Kates and Paula (Virizlay) Skolnick, as well as members of the Juilliard String Quartet, the Amadeus Quartet and the Cleveland Quartet. After performing with pianist André Previn at the La Jolla Chamber Music Festival, Ms. Kloetzel was invited to appear as one of his select "Rising Stars" for two seasons at the Caramoor Festival in New York.

Ms. Kloetzel has been featured regularly on National Public Radio's "Performance Today" and her performances have been broadcast on radio stations from coast to coast. She has recorded 25 CDs including the entire cycle of Beethoven Quartets and Brahms Sextets on the Avie label. She performed as principal cellist of the Concert Artists of Baltimore, the Baltimore Opera and the Juilliard Orchestra under Maestro Kurt Masur. In addition, she is a frequent soloist with orchestras throughout the United States, performing concertos by Beethoven, Bloch, Brahms, Dvořák, Elgar, Haydn, Lalo and Shostakovich.

To learn more about Ms. Kloetzel, please visit music.ucsb.edu/people/jennifer-kloetzel or jkcello.com.

About the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music

From an institution that began life dedicated to training the next generation of music educators, to what is now a multi-faceted department with a fully established research and professional graduate program with degrees in composition, ethnomusicology, musicology, music theory, and performance, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music has produced many hundreds of graduates who have distinguished themselves both nationally and internationally. Alumni have gone on to teach on faculties of major colleges and universities in the United States and abroad, or in outstanding secondary school positions. Many graduates of the program have published extensively and become widely renowned, prize-winning scholars, while others are award-winning and frequently performed composers writing for television and film. Alumni are also establishing fine reputations as conductors of orchestras, opera, and choruses. Graduates of the instrumental programs have gone on to solo and orchestral careers with leading orchestras, and graduates of the voice program can be heard in opera companies around the world.

With over 150 events presented annually, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music offers something for every music lover. The department boasts 26 unique performing ensembles, each with a quarterly concert calendar. Chamber music, large ensembles, opera, contemporary groups, world music, and jazz ensembles make up the department's rich performance calendar, along with lectures, master classes, and presentations from the ethnomusicology, musicology, theory, and composition programs. For a complete listing of performances and lectures for the quarter, please visit the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music website at music.ucsb.edu.

For additional information, photos, or to request an interview with an artist, please contact Adriane Hill at adrianehill@ucsb.edu or (805) 893-3230. To sign up for the Department of Music's newsletter, please [click here](#). Follow the Department of Music on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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