

**MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS PRESS RELEASE**

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**MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS PRESENT A VIRTUAL CONCERT TO CLOSE THE  
2020 CONCERT SEASON**

**COME HEAR NC with a World Premiere of song cycle:**

Kenneth Frazelle

# THROUGH THE WINDOW

*for Soprano, Violoncello (or Viola) & Piano*



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DURHAM, N.C. – Under current COVID-19 restrictions, Durham-based [Mallarmé Chamber Players](#) will, like other performing organizations, be unable to continue their live concerts this season. But we're not cancelling or postponing. Instead, we are excited to present, on **June 20 at 3 pm**, a live-streamed, online concert: **COME HEAR NC: Chamber Music of North Carolina Composers**, featuring the world premiere of [Kenneth Frazelle's](#) song-cycle *Through the Window*. Other works on this program are the jazz-infused *Spirit Songs* for cello and piano

by [T.J. Anderson](#), and [Caroline Shaw](#)'s reflective work, *in manus tuas* for solo cello. And, yes, thanks to our partnering with Manifold Studios in Pittsboro, the musicians — cellist [Bonnie Thron](#) (Principal – NC Symphony), pianist [David Heid](#) (Duke University) and soprano [Andrea Edith Moore](#) — will be performing together in the same space, in real time. Frazelle says about his new work:

*Through the Window explores events in my mother's earlier years in eastern North Carolina. She was born during the Great Depression, picked cotton, and worked in tobacco as a child. She went on to graduate from college and raised three children as a young widow.*

*Soprano Andrea Moore and I first discussed this song cycle five years ago. Commissioning eventually fell into place from the Mallarmé Chamber Players with support from the NC Arts Council and Linda and Stuart Nelson.*

*In these challenging and isolating times, it's wonderful to be able to present a virtual premiere with Andrea, pianist David Heid, and cellist Bonnie Thron. I think many people will resonate with the themes of survival, strength, and hope.*

In keeping with Mallarmé's mission of making new music accessible, a pre-performance interview with Ken Frazelle will give our virtual audience insight into his composition and important musical landmarks to listen for. (Mr. Frazelle also wrote the lyrics and painted the watercolor image on the score, pictured above.)

This virtual concert is a first for Mallarmé, and we are most grateful to Michael Tiemann and his state-of-the-art Manifold Studios for enabling us to video and audio record the ensemble while keeping artists and technicians safe:

*Manifold Recording is putting its size to good use, not only as an ideal space in which to capture the sound of operatic voices and classical instruments, but also one which allows the artists, producer, and engineer to maintain safe distances while working together. We are planning carefully how to create the most intimate sound and visuals while respecting the best practices for limiting risk.*

Information on how to access the live stream from computer, tablet or smartphone will be sent to subscribers and ticket holders a few days before the performance. Tickets are still available for \$25 (general admission) /\$15 (teachers) /\$5 (children) at <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=105084>.

The Frazelle commission is supported by a donation from Stuart and Linda Nelson and a grant from the North Carolina Arts Council. Thanks to Manifold Studios for their support in presenting this virtual concert.

### **ABOUT MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS:**

The Mallarmé Chamber Players are a flexible ensemble of professional musicians based in Durham, North Carolina, whose mission is to enrich the lives of their community through outstanding chamber music. The ensemble distinguishes itself by its commitment to creative collaboration with other organizations, its creation of significant new work, its innovative educational programs, and its dedication to serve a diverse population.

Mallarmé's annual concert series features a great diversity of chamber music, ranging from Bach performed on period instruments to brand new works, often commissioned for Mallarmé. In 2010, Mallarmé released an acclaimed CD of chamber music by African American composers (Albany/Videmus).

Mallarmé is unique in that we do not work with a fixed core of musicians, but instead, depending on repertoire, incorporate some of the wonderful musical talent North Carolina has to offer. Most of Mallarmé's musicians are members of professional organizations like the NC Symphony, freelance players and faculty members of numerous institutions of higher learning. On many occasions, we are joined by guest artists of national and international renown.

Mallarmé is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) 3 organization. The 2019/20 concert season is made possible in part by grants from the Durham Arts Council's Annual Arts Fund and the North Carolina Arts Council.

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