

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

**Recipient of the 2015-2016 McKnight Artist Fellowship
for Performing Musicians administered by MacPhail Center for Music**

Cellist Wilhelmina Smith was awarded a 2015–16 McKnight Artist Fellowship for Performing Musicians, one of the largest and most established fellowships of its kind in the US. She made her solo debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra while a student at the Curtis Institute of Music and in 1997 was a prizewinner in the Leonard Rose International Cello Competition. She has been soloist with orchestras nationally and internationally including the Orquesta Millenium of Guatemala and the Ural Philharmonic Orchestra of Russia and has performed recitals across the US and Japan.

She has been a guest artist with the Philadelphia and Boston Chamber Music Societies, and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and has performed regularly in festivals such as the Marlboro Music Festival and Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. In 2005, she formed the Variation String Trio with violinist Jennifer Koh and violist Hsin-Yun Huang, and is a founding member of Music from Copland House. She is founder and Artistic Director of Salt Bay Chamberfest on the coast of Maine, a festival that has been home to performers and composers of international renown for over two decades.

Praised by *The Strad* as “a consummate communicator of the new virtuosity,” Ms. Smith’s 2019 recording of solo works by Salonen and Saariaho (*Ondine*) and her recent 2021 recording of solo works by Per Nørgård and Poul Ruders (*Ondine*) have earned high praise from reviewers including BBC and Gramophone. Ms. Smith’s recording of sonatas by Britten and Schnittke with pianist Thomas Sauer was released on the Arabesque label in 2006, and her recordings of chamber music include the complete chamber works of Aaron Copland (*Arabesque*), and works by Sebastian Currier (*Koch*), Osvaldo Golijov (*Kleos*), Pierre Jalbert (*CHB*), Jennifer Higdon (*Naxos*), Aaron Jay Kernis (*Koch*), Tamar Muskal and John Musto (*Koch*), Kaija Saariaho (*Cedille*), and Michael Torke (*AMR*).

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