



ALL CLASSICAL RADIO CHOOSES PACIFIC NORTHWEST ARTISTS FOR ITS ACCESS RECORDING PROJECT



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Portland, OR — [August 19, 2025] — All Classical Radio has selected The Immigrant Story, pianist Nikita Istratov, and nonesuch.reedquintet as the first-ever artists and organizations to take part in its Access Recording Project. Now in its pilot year, All Classical Radio's Access Recording Project offers Pacific Northwest musicians and artists use of the station's state-of-the-art performance hall and recording studio to develop creative projects and advance their careers.

"Through the Access Recording Project, All Classical Radio is removing barriers for Pacific Northwest creatives," says Suzanne Nance, President and CEO. "This program opens the doors to world-class opportunities — performing, recording, and documenting their work as artists, storytellers, and musicians. Our goal is to share resources that spark lasting, positive change for local artists and the community."





Selected participants receive up to 10 hours of time in All Classical Radio's Irving Levin Performance Hall and James DePreist Recording Studio at no cost, including event management and audio production support. Artists and organizations submitted proposals earlier this year, which were reviewed by a panel. All projects will be completed in 2025.

Through the Access Recording Project, the Immigrant Story will record a one-of-a-kind project that fuses the traditional sounds of Southwest Asia with Western classical strings and contemporary percussion. The result will be a transformative result of Indian classical and Western classical traditions meeting, not to replace one another, but to create something entirely new—something born of many cultures, yet rooted in the U.S. The Immigrant Story documents, narrates, and curates stories about immigrants to promote empathy and an inclusive community. Its "Immigrant Story Live" performances amplify the rich musical traditions and priceless cultural heritage that immigrants carry to the U.S.

"This project is not only about preserving music—it's about setting a new standard for how Western classical traditions and global musical heritage can come together to create something that is uniquely ours," says Sankar Raman, founder and Board President. "All Classical is the perfect venue to do it."

Pianist Nikita Istratov will capture an hour-long recorded recital highlighting the work and style of Sofia Gubaidulina. The program will explore how Gubaidulina creatively employs innovative harmonic language and traditional musical forms and how 19th-century romantic Slavic cultural elements developed and influenced the music of Gubaidulina. At the center of the recital will be Gubaidulina's *Chaconne* (1962), her most significant work for solo piano and her first commissioned work. The program will also feature music that influenced Gubaidulina's development as an accomplished and influential woman composer.

"As a young musician, collaborating with a major arts organization like All Classical Radio is an exciting opportunity to amplify my artistic voice," says Istratov. "This project allows me to bring greater attention to an intriguing composer, and to generally advocate for broader recognition of female classical composers. I'm grateful to All Classical Radio for helping me





to realize my vision."

Professional chamber ensemble nonesuch.reedquintet will create an original multimedia children's book, "Jimbo's Dreamland," with narration set to music by beloved composers including George Gershwin and Claude Debussy, performed by the quintet. The project furthers nonesuch.reedquintent's mission to expand access to engaging and inspiring music education in schools across the Pacific Northwest and beyond. The book will feature words and artwork by a commissioned children's book author and illustrator based in the Pacific Northwest.

David Kwek, nonesuch.reedquintet founding member and Board Secretary, shares: "The Access Recording Project offers the resources to transform this vision into a high-quality, impactful educational tool, furthering our skills in educational outreach and strengthening our identity as a reed quintet dedicated to music education."

Learn more about The Immigrant Story <u>here</u>, Nikita Istratov <u>here</u>, and nonesuch.reedquintet <u>here</u>. For more information about the Access Recording Project, please visit <u>allclassical.org/access-recording-project</u>.

Access Recording Project is made possible in part by a generous grant from the <u>Oregon</u> <u>Cultural Trust.</u>

About All Classical Radio

All Classical Radio is consistently ranked in the top 3 classical radio stations in the USA. The network is recognized for its bold collaborations and outreach and for broadcasting 98% locally produced programming, including innovative music playlists, interviews, live broadcasts, and arts and culture specials. Home to the groundbreaking Recording Inclusivity Initiative, NEA-funded Artist Anthology, and award-winning International Children's Arts Network, All Classical Radio is one of the first classical stations in the nation to name artists and composers in residence and to develop robust youth journalism mentorships.



Broadcasting from the heart of the Pacific Northwest, All Classical Radio is an independent and community-funded radio station, providing unparalleled access to classical music, outstanding performances, information about the arts, and more since 1983. Serving nearly 250,000 local households in Oregon and SW Washington, All Classical Radio reaches listeners online in 100+ countries around the globe. Listen at 89.9 FM in Portland/Vancouver or anywhere in the world at allclassical.org.

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