

MOON HA



String Works



Amorsima Trio · JACK Quartet · Mivos Quartet · Momenta Quartet



- 1. illusive** (2011) 11:41
for eight strings
JACK QUARTET + MIVOS QUARTET
Christopher Otto, violin
Ari Streisfeld, violin
Olivia De Prato, violin
Joshua Modney, violin
John Pickford Richards, viola
Victor Lowrie, viola
Kevin McFarland, cello
Isabel Castellvi, cello
- 2. "... until that time may come ..."** (2013) 08:37
for string quartet
MOMENTA QUARTET
Emilie-Anne Gendron, violin
Adda Kridler, violin
Stephanie Griffin, viola
Michael Haas, cello
- 3. artless beauty in pursuit of theory, op. 2** (2022) 11:40
for string trio
AMORSIMA TRIO
Mia Detwiler, violin
Michael Capone, viola
Kourtney Newton, cello
- 4. on resonance** (2022) 07:40
for violin solo and electronics
Mia Detwiler, violin
- 5. artless beauty in pursuit of theory, op. 3** (2023) 09:56
for violin and viola
Mia Detwiler, violin
Michael Capone, viola

Recording Details

Venues/Studios:

Tenri (Live, Track 1, April 8, 2011)

NYU Silver Center #220

(Live, Track 2, March 30, 2013)

NYU Mercer Recording Studio

(Track 3, February 7, 2022)

Margo Jones Performance Hall, Texas

Woman's University

(Tracks 4 & 5, July 21, 2024)

Recording & Mixing Engineers:

Adam Mirza (Track 3)

Ermir Bejo (Tracks 4 & 5)

Moon Ha (Track 4)

Mastering:

Paul Howells (All Tracks)

Production Assistant:

Ahmir Phillips (Track 3)

Cover Photography:

Michael Yu

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String Works

As a teenager, I studied violin privately for about a year. Despite my best efforts, I never truly learned to play—couldn't even manage a simple melody. Yet the raw, untamed sounds of the violin—the fleeting, wild noises it could produce—captivated me. Even now, though I still can't play a tune, I remain enchanted by its voice: the subtle, mournful cries and the bright, shimmering whispers.

String instruments have long been my silent idols, their voices resonating with a deep, almost mystical beauty. Since I began composing, I've been drawn again and again to their warmth, vibrancy, and the intensity of their impassioned screams. Over the years, I've written many works for strings—each one an attempt to enter, and perhaps never fully master, their enigmatic world.

String Works gathers pieces I've written for strings across the past decade. Creating them has been my joy, my privilege, and my constant fascination: an unfolding journey into a sound-world as elusive, strange, and beautiful as the strings themselves.



Biography

Moon Ha (b. 1980) is a New York-based composer whose work blurs the boundaries between music, technology, and sustainability. Using traditional instruments alongside found objects, handmade electronics, and both new and “obsolete” audio devices, he creates immersive soundscapes that invite listeners into unexpected sonic worlds.

As founder and Artistic Director of ensemble *mise-en*, Ha has championed adventurous contemporary music through performances and the internationally recognized MISE-EN Festival. His recent projects focus on recycled and repurposed materials, transforming salvaged electronics and outdated technologies into strikingly original instruments.

Ha's works have been performed worldwide by ensembles such as Alarm Will Sound, JACK Quartet, and Mivos Quartet, and featured at festivals and venues from New York to Montreal, Seoul, and beyond. Whether in concert halls, museums, or intimate installations, his music reimagines how sound is created, heard, and sustained.

After earning his PhD in Music from New York University's Graduate School of Arts and Science, Ha taught at Dartmouth College, Colby College, Molloy University, and CUNY-Kingsborough. He is currently Music Assistant Professor at NYU Steinhardt's Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions.



