

Sharon Stanis – Upper Strings



Sharon Stanis has a multi-faceted career as a performer and educator. As a co-founder of the Lafayette String Quartet, she has toured extensively in North America and Europe. The quartet garnered prizes from the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition and the Portsmouth (England) International String Quartet Competition with appearances in Wigmore Hall and Concertgebouw. The repertoire of the quartet spanned from Haydn to contemporary commissioned works and included the Beethoven and Shostakovich cycles. In August, 2023 the members of the Lafayette Quartet took their final bows after 37 years of performing together.

In addition to appearing as soloist with the Victoria Symphony and the Palm Court Orchestra Ms. Stanis has served as concertmaster of these ensembles. She has also performed with double bassist Gary Karr in the Bottesini Grand Duo.

A dedicated and enthusiastic teacher, Stanis taught at the University of Victoria from 1991-2023. Her students have gone on to become soloists, orchestral musicians, educators and researchers worldwide. She adjudicates numerous festivals across Canada and the US, giving master classes throughout North America. Stanis was a member of the Renaissance City Chamber Players, and on faculty at Oakland University and The Institute of Music and Dance in Detroit.

Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Stanis studied with Linda and David Cerone, Gary Kosloski, Henryk Kowalski, and Peter Salaff. She received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Indiana University, where she coached with Rostislav Dubinsky who was integral in the formation of the Lafayette String Quartet. Other coaches include members of the Cleveland, Alban Berg, and Amadeus Quartets.

In addition to recordings on the Dorian and CBC labels with the Lafayette Quartet, Stanis has recorded the Murray Adaskin Second Violin Sonata and the John Mills-Cockell Concerto of Deliverance.

A documentary about the Lafayette String Quartet, *Creating Harmony* was released in 2023.