

NEWS NOW

ncer Institute ... HOME PROFILE: A beauty inside and out in Gloucester ... In shift, NOAA says fish fleets will be reimburse

# Concertmaster and violinist Frank Huang returns to Rockport Chamber Music Festival

"I still love the chamber music aspect of being free, of improvising," says violinist Frank Huang. "We just did our first conductor-less concert in New York last week — this small chamber orchestra. It reminded me of the bonding opportunity that you have with chamber music, the relaxed environment, where everyone feels like they're part of this unit."

Share icons for email, print, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, Pinterest, and a generic share icon. Includes buttons for COMMENT (0), Facebook Recommend (0), and Tweet (0).



Violinist Frank Huang will play with pianist Gilles Vonsattel on Saturday, June 25 at 8 p.m. at the Rockport Chamber Music Festival. COURTESY PHOTO

ADVERTISEMENT Rumor Has It This Stock Might Explode... (with a small photo of an older man)

## » STAY INFORMED

Email Newsletter Sign Up Today Sign up for our newsletter and have the top headlines from your community delivered right to your inbox.

## ▶ LOOK AT THIS

- When the Tinnitus Will Not Stop, Do This for Instant Relief
- Melissa McCarthy Stuns Hollywood by



Violinist Frank Huang will play with pianist Gilles Vonsattel on Saturday, June 25 at 8 p.m. at the Rockport Chamber Music Festival. COURTESY PHOTO

**By Keith Powers / Correspondent**

Posted Jun. 23, 2016 at 8:19 PM  
Updated Jun 23, 2016 at 9:28 PM

ROCKPORT  
**By Keith Powers / Correspondent**

Posted Jun. 23, 2016 at 8:19 PM  
Updated Jun 23, 2016 at 9:28 PM

ROCKPORT

**If you go...**

**WHAT:** Frank Huang, violin, and Gilles Vonsattel, piano, at Rockport Chamber Music Festival

**WHERE:** Shalin Liu Performance Center, 37 Main St., Rockport

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 25, 8 p.m.

**TICKETS:** \$47-\$65. Visit [www.rockportmusic.org](http://www.rockportmusic.org) or call 978-546-7391.

Accepting the job as concertmaster of one of America’s most prestigious orchestras might seem like a no-brainer. For violinist Frank Huang, it was complicated.

“I actually had a hard time of it,” the violinist says of being offered the concertmaster post at the New York Philharmonic last year. “Sometimes these are difficult decisions.”

You can see why. At the time Huang was concertmaster of the Houston Symphony — in his hometown. Before that, he was first violinist of the Ying Quartet — well known for multiple appearances in Rockport, and for a longtime residency at Harvard. Making both of those transitions had been difficult enough.

Huang served as first violinist with Ying for only one season — 2009. Then Houston came calling. “It’s my hometown,” he says. “I was in Ying, and we were also teaching at Eastman School of Music. It was my dream job. I was drawn to the freedom you have with a quartet, the control over what you do. You can rehearse of as long as you need to. Rehearsal is very limited in the orchestra world.

“You get to know a quartet very well. And teaching — for me it’s a calling. I have a passion for it.”

But when the orchestra world called — especially where his family still lived — Huang couldn’t pass. “Being home for five years was important,” he said of his tenure in Houston, which ran 2010-2015. “That opportunity, for musicians, doesn’t come around that often.”

When he first joined Houston, the orchestra was led by conductor Hans Graf. As Graf ended his long tenure, Huang was part of the decision-making team that hired his replacement, Andres Orozco-Estrada. Given that the concertmaster and the conductor have an extremely close working relationship, that decision was crucial.

And now, with the New York Philharmonic’s longstanding director Alan Gilbert deciding to leave the

**Dropping 55 lbs in 40 Days**

- **The Longest 0% APR Card Has Arrived**
- **Homeowners Are In For A Big Surprise In 2016**
- **Barb Walters Sits Down With Dr Oz and Leaves Viewers Speechless**
- **Melissa McCarthy Uses New Skinny Pill to Drop 50lbs in 35 Days**
- **How Melissa McCarthy Shed a Shocking 50 Pounds in 30 Days**
- **Warren Buffett FURIOUS After This Secret Brain Pill Gets Exposed**
- **Diabetes Breakthrough That Will Bankrupt The Diabetes Industry**
- **Stephen Hawking Calls This Smart Brain Pill A Science MIRACLE**

Powered by Newsmax.

## » TOP CLICKS

POPULAR EMAILED COMMENTED

Artist captures four seasons of beauty at Tower Hill Botanic Garden [Jun. 19, 2016](#)

MUSIC SCENE: Mayer Hawthorne's new soul grooves heat up Boston [Jun. 20, 2016](#)

Home Help: Simple tips to save money, conserve energy as the heat rises [Jun. 20, 2016](#)

Rick Holmes: The face of a 'lone wolf' killer [Jun. 20, 2016](#)

Registry branch at mall to close [Jun. 21, 2016](#)

Get A Life: Getting a grip on anger [Jun. 20, 2016](#)

## NORTH BOSTON DIRECTORY

### Featured Businesses

- [John Ellis Plumbing](#)
- [Artistry On The Green](#)
- [Yellow Jackets Gymnastics Club](#)
- [Good As Gone Junk Removal](#)
- [Children's Dental Associates of Westford](#)

Find North Boston Attractions

Search business by keyword

[Add your business here +](#)

## » EVENTS CALENDAR

orchestra, and Dutch conductor Jaap van Zweden being chosen to replace him, Huang will go through that transition once again.

"It's a very important relationship," he says. "It's always good to have the same approach to the music. It will be several years before Jaap takes over, but we played a week of concerts with him last fall, and I was very impressed. We did a Beethoven 5 that was the best I've ever heard. He was a concertmaster himself, and he clearly sees what that role should be."

After just one season in New York, Huang is still settling in. He and his wife — violinist Sarah Ludwig — are expecting their first child, and just bought a home in Westchester. And with the whirlwind of performances — this summer the Philharmonic tours China, travels to Colorado, and continues its partnership with the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara — well, he's busy.

But not too busy to make a side trip to Rockport, to play sonatas by Beethoven and Prokofiev with his friend Gilles Vonsattel. "We both won the Naumberg competition, a year or two apart, I think," Huang says. "We did our first concert together in the Library of Congress, and have played together a lot since then."

"I still love the chamber music aspect of being free, of improvising. We just did our first conductorless concert in New York last week — this small chamber orchestra. It reminded me of the bonding opportunity that you have with chamber music, the relaxed environment, where everyone feels like they're part of this unit."

Huang and Vonsattel play three works on Saturday, June 25 at the Shalin Liu Performance Center: Beethoven's "Spring" and "Kreutzer" sonatas, and the Prokofiev F minor. For tickets and information visit [www.rockportmusic.org](http://www.rockportmusic.org) or call 978-546-7391.

*Keith Powers covers music and the arts for Gatehouse Media and WBUR's ARTery. Follow @PowersKeith; email to keithmichaelpowers@gmail.com*

## Week Four at a Glance

### Thursday, June 23, 8 p.m.

George Li, piano

"I was there, then?" Maybe you were there then, in 2011, when 15-year-old Li played Liszt in Rockport, part of a rising stars recital. Now he's a Tchaikovsky medalist, has international management and tours the world. A major solo recital, featuring more Liszt, Chopin, Rachmaninov and Haydn.

### Friday, June 24, 8 p.m.

Andres Cardenes, violin; Anne Martindale Williams, cello; David Deveau, piano

RCMF director Deveau and longtime colleagues perform trios by Haydn, Schubert and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich.

### Saturday, June 25, 8 p.m.

Frank Huang, violin, with Gilles Vonsattel, piano



In 2015 Huang became the first new concertmaster for the New York Philharmonic in 35 years. He joins Vonsattel, long an RCMF favorite. Beethoven ("Spring," "Kreutzer") and Prokofiev sonatas.



### Sunday, June 26, 5 p.m.

Andres Cardenes, violin; Yinzi Kong, viola; Anne Martindale Williams, cello; David Deveau, piano

Great program: Dohnanyi Serenade for string trio, and Brahms A major quartet.

[» Comment or view comments](#)

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
Friday, June 24, 2016						
	<b>"Albatross"</b>					7:30 pm
	Gloucester Stage Company					
	<b>Violinist Andrés Cárdenes, violist Yinzi Kong, cellist Anne Martindale Williams and pianist David Deveau</b>					8:00 pm
	Shalin Liu Performance Center					
More Events »			Add Events »			
Events by <a href="http://eviesays.com">eviesays.com</a>						

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
Friday, June 24, 2016						
	<b>"Albatross"</b>					7:30 pm
	Gloucester Stage Company					
	<b>Violinist Andrés Cárdenes, violist Yinzi Kong, cellist Anne Martindale Williams and pianist David Deveau</b>					8:00 pm
	Shalin Liu Performance Center					
More Events »			Add Events »			
Events by <a href="http://eviesays.com">eviesays.com</a>						



**Marblehead Youth Cheerleader program gets a reboot**  
Dana Sullivan gives the squad an impromptu lesson

» **SUGGESTED STORIES**

Gloucester High School 'Scholarship Bulletin' available

Art that explores time

Rockport's G19 Gallery holding contemporary seascapes exhibit

Gov. Baker weighs in on threat to lobster imports

Bushwhacking through 'Overgrowth' at the deCordova in Lincoln

J.J. Nicastro Foundation pledges \$50K for Newell Stadium renovations

» **PROMOTED STORIES**

How This Online Lingerie Shop Is Letting Customers Try Before They Buy [Entrepreneur](#)

Cambridge Scientists Trace Aging of All Organisms To One Thing [Elysium Health on Scientific American](#)

We've Got 28 Margarita Recipes You Won't Believe [Slideshow] [Cooking Channel TV](#)

NAD: The "Golden Nucleotide" in Aging Research [Elysium Health on Fast Company](#)

20 Horrifying Shark Attacks That Have Been Recorded [Weekend Collective](#)

Thinking About Going Solar? Read This First [Home Solar Programs](#)

Recommended by **Outbrain**

» **Popular Articles and Offers**



15 Real Photos From The Past That You've Never Seen



Walmart Cameras Caught These Hilarious Photos



Heartbreaking images capture the final moments of life before death struck. #11 is just plain sad.



Massachusetts Homeowners Who Have Not Missed A Payment in 3 Years Are In For A Big Surprise...

ADVERTISEMENT

» **Popular Articles and Offers**



15 Real Photos From The Past That You've Never Seen



Walmart Cameras Caught These Hilarious Photos



Massachusetts Homeowners Who Have Not Missed A Payment in 3 Years Are In For A Big Surprise...



Heartbreaking images capture the final moments of life before death struck. #11 is just plain sad.

ADVERTISEMENT



Login with:    

0 Comments powered by: 



Write your comment here

Upload video

Upload image

Submit

Follow

● REALTIME

Newest

Connect with Wicked Local Gloucester

Facebook

RSS

Back to top

### Site Services

- Work for Us
- Submit your news
- Subscribe
- Ads
- Archives
- Photo reprints
- Terms of Use

### Market Place

- Homes
- Classifieds
- Coupons

### Community Info

- City of Gloucester
- Gloucester Public Schools
- Sawyer Free Library
- Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce
- Cape Ann YMCA

### Communities

- Rockport news
- Essex news
- Manchester-by-the-Sea news
- Ipswich news
- Beverly news
- Salem news

## Stay Informed



Email newsletter

Sign Up Today

Sign up for our newsletter and have the top headlines from your community delivered right to your inbox.

Your privacy is important, read our [privacy policy](#).

Wicked Local Media Solutions | Propel Marketing | More Content Now | Find&Save