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*For Immediate Release*

**Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Music Hall  
Selected for Filming and Live Recording of *All Without Words Live*, a  
World Premiere Multimedia and Multidisciplinary Production of  
Justin Morell’s Jazz Trumpet Concerto**

**Presentation to Feature the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra,  
Original Performers from the *All Without Words* Album, Including Grammy Award-  
Winning Artist John Daversa on Trumpet, Tal Cohen on Piano, David Chiverton on  
Drum Set; Singers and Instrumentalists from the University of Miami’s Frost School of  
Music, Dancers, and a Gallery Exhibition of Art by Artists from The Art of Autism**

**CINCINNATI, OH** (July 20, 2023)—The **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (CSO)** and **Cincinnati Music Hall** have been selected by [The Boundless Arts Foundation](#) for the filming and live recording of a new, large-scale multimedia and multidisciplinary presentation of composer **Justin Morell’s** jazz trumpet concerto, *All Without Words* on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Composed as a tribute to **Morell’s** nonverbal autistic son, **Loren Morell**, and recorded and released as an album in 2021, *All Without Words* was inspired by **Loren’s** spontaneous vocalizations and evolved into a work for solo trumpet, orchestra, rhythm section, and chorus. The CSO presentation is an expanded production of the original concert version and will feature the CSO; original performers from the album, including Grammy Award-winning artist **John Daversa** on trumpet, **Tal Cohen** on piano, and **David Chiverton** on drum set; singers and instrumentalists from the **University of Miami’s Frost School of Music** (Coral Gables, FL); dancers; and a gallery exhibition of art by artists from [The Art of Autism](#) created to represent the music. The entire audience experience will be filmed to be used in a feature-length video program.

“What began as a mission to celebrate neurodiversity became an opportunity for me to connect with my son and hear his voice in a way I had not before,” said **Morell**. “The music is born of intense emotion—sometimes painful and sometimes joyful—and of hope for a compassionate future where all people are loved and respected for their humanity.”

**Morell**, a genre-crossing composer and guitarist and Associate Professor of Musical Composition at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pennsylvania, began writing a piece about his son **Loren** and his

personal experiences loving someone on the autism spectrum prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. He listened to his son's singing and vocalizations, recorded them, and later transcribed two different segments of a melody which ultimately became the main theme, Loren's theme. As the composition evolved, **Morell** created an artistic expression of Loren's theme through soaring trumpet solos lines, with each of the resulting 11 variations on the theme reflecting a unique moment in **Morell's** life with his son, the journey of learning how to connect with a child who has difficulty with aspects of communication, and the triumph of what may seem to others as the smallest of successes. **John Daversa**, multi-Grammy Award-winning artist, trumpeter, and Chair and Professor of Studio Music and Jazz at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, was quickly identified as a partner for the project.

The composition was recorded for the 2021 album, *All Without Words: Variations Inspired by Loren*, released and presented as **The John Daversa Jazz Orchestra** featuring **Justin Morell**. To broaden awareness and involvement with the project, **Morell** and **Daversa** also connected with talented autistic artists from **The Art of Autism** in California, many of whom have the ability to see colors or symbols around music. The artists listened to the recording of *All Without Words* and created unique pieces of art in response to the music. The interpretation by artist **Angela Weddle** later became the album cover art.

"John and I have been friends forever and have collaborated on countless projects, and I was honored to write this piece as a feature for him. There is no more sensitive, expressive, profound musician than John, and I knew he would bring unparalleled life to this music. I also know we shared a vision about the mission and how to expand its reach to include the larger autism community, including working with extraordinary visual artists from The Art of Autism—each of whom offered their own beautiful interpretation of Loren's theme," said **Morell**.

"The mission and music of *All Without Words* continues to touch us all on deeper and deeper levels. What a gift it is to 'sing' this beautiful narrative through the voice of the trumpet, as this is a human story of unconditional love, deep compassion told directly from the heart," said **Daversa**.

Transformed by award-winning director and video artist, **Milcho**, the *All Without Words Live* experiential presentation with the **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra** on September 20, 2023 will be the world premiere of an expanded production that embraces staging, light, color, and multiple artistic disciplines. The CSO presentation will include the addition of dancers as well as a gallery exhibit by artists from **The Art of Autism**. The entire audience experience, including foyer activations and performance in Cincinnati Music Hall's Springer Auditorium, will be filmed.

"Having been involved with *All Without Words* from the recording stages of the album to the different multi-layered chapters of this heartwarming project, it's a humbling honor to be given the opportunity to create this highly emotional, visually stimulating live concert experience. My goal is for all of us to 'see' the music, 'be' the music, and take those emotions with us after we leave Music Hall," said **Milcho**.

"We are delighted to present *All Without Words Live*," said **Kent Savage**, President of The Boundless Arts Foundation. "It's an honor to support this collaboration between CSO, Justin Morell, trumpet soloist John Daversa, the Frost School of Music and creative director Milcho, as the musical work is transformed into a large-scale multi-disciplinary expression of parents' love for their autistic son. The artistic

elements—sound, light, dancing, and staging—converge to take the audience on a powerful and emotional journey while honoring the spirit of the son who cannot speak.”

“This project resonated with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra on many levels,” reflected **Jonathan Martin**, President and CEO of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. “The story of Justin Morell’s journey with his son is inspiring, and the organic collaboration between talented artists from different and important artistic disciplines for *All Without Words* aligns with our mission and vision. We are honored to partner with Justin Morell, John Daversa, and the Frost School of Music to present the live performance and filming of the piece for Cincinnati audiences.”

Tickets to [All Without Words Live](#) with the **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra** are free and available beginning Thursday, July 20, 2023. Seating is general admission and advance registration is highly encouraged. Seats can be reserved online at [cincinnati-symphony.org](http://cincinnati-symphony.org), by phone at 513-381-3300, or in-person by visiting the Box Office at 1241 Elm Street, Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## JUSTIN MORELL

**Justin Morell** is a composer, guitarist and music educator whose work crosses genres between classical and jazz styles and is featured on several acclaimed recordings including the recent *Concerto for Guitar and Jazz Orchestra*. He is an associate professor of music composition and theory at Lebanon Valley College in Pennsylvania. Justin’s multimedia work includes notable contributions to Steven Spielberg’s *Catch Me if You Can*, Lifetime Original Movies, TV sitcom *The Naked Truth*, and *The Lion King*-San Francisco production.

## JOHN DAVERSA

**John Daversa** is a multi-Grammy Award-winning, Emmy Award-nominated trumpet player, composer, arranger, producer, bandleader, and educator. He is world-renowned for his dynamic and emotive style of trumpet and EVI playing, along with imaginative, genre-bending compositions and arrangements. Daversa is Chair of Studio Music and Jazz at Frost School of Music, University of Miami, and an active educator. John Daversa is a Schilke Music Artist and a Burglund Artist.

## MILCHO

**Milcho** is a Miami based multi-award-winning director, video artist, speaker and mental health advocate. Throughout her 30-year career in the entertainment industry, she has worked with major television networks as well as directed countless music videos for the Latin and Anglo markets. For almost a decade, Milcho sat on the board of directors of the Florida Chapter of the Recording Academy/Grammys, where she served as Governor, VP & President until terming out in 2022. She is currently the Director & Creative Director for Savage Content. In Spring 2023, Milcho was selected by the Boundless Arts Foundation to direct *All Without Words Live*.

## THE BOUNDLESS ARTS FOUNDATION

Founded in 2020 by serial entrepreneur, inventor, investor, and philanthropist, Kent Savage, [The Boundless Arts Foundation](#) is a nonprofit organization that promotes the joy, education, and pursuit of

the arts. Its mission is to re-imagine the presentation of the arts across the world by creating opportunities for content creation, curation, and distribution and for learning about and experiencing the joy of arts, developing strong creative communities, and building meaningful connections.

Led by a team of art enthusiasts and board of directors from diverse backgrounds, The Boundless Arts Foundation is committed to serving and empowering artists and their communities through a wide array of programming, funding, and collaboration, including educational workshops, artist awards and recognition, fellowships, scholarships, grantmaking, and other artist support programs. Throughout its journey, The Foundation has supported musicians, artists, organizations, and community-based projects in the realm of the arts.

## **CINCINNATI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

With a legacy dating back 128 years, the **Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (CSO)** is considered one of America's finest and most versatile ensembles. Led by Louis Langrée since 2013, the CSO's distinguished roster of past music directors includes Leopold Stokowski, Eugène Ysaÿe, Fritz Reiner, Max Rudolf, Jesús López Cobos and Paavo Järvi. Matthias Pintscher is the Orchestra's Creative Partner; previous artistic partners have included Lang Lang, Philip Glass, Branford Marsalis and Jennifer Higdon. The Orchestra also performs as the Cincinnati Pops, founded by Erich Kunzel in 1977 and currently led by John Morris Russell with Damon Gupton serving as Principal Guest Conductor. The CSO further elevates the city's vibrant arts scene by serving as the official orchestra for the Cincinnati May Festival, Cincinnati Opera and Cincinnati Ballet.

The CSO has long championed the composers and music of its time and has given historic American premieres of works by Claude Debussy, Gustav Mahler, Richard Strauss, Maurice Ravel, Béla Bartók, William Grant Still and other prominent composers. It has also commissioned many works that ultimately became mainstays of the classical repertoire, including Aaron Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*. The Orchestra continues to actively commission new work, amplifying new voices from a diverse array of backgrounds, most recently with the Fanfare Project, a series of solo instrument works written for CSO musicians to mark a moment in time during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Deeply committed to inclusion, relevance, and enhancing and expanding opportunities for the children of Greater Cincinnati, the Orchestra works to bring music education, in its many different forms, to as broad a public as possible. These efforts include two youth orchestras, the Nouveau program, Sound Discoveries, Musicians in Schools, the CSO Brass Institute, and one of the longest running Young People's Concerts series in the U.S., which has run for over 100 years.

In 2020, the CSO was one of the first American orchestras to create a Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer position; in 2022, the CSO became the first American orchestra to endow the position to ensure the absorption of best DE&I practices into every facet of the organization in perpetuity. The CSO/CCM Diversity Fellowship, a nationally recognized program in partnership with the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, provides a graduate degree-level education with performance and professional development opportunities for extraordinary young string players from populations historically underrepresented in American orchestras. The CSO is also an incubator for and partner to Equity Arc, a consortium of American orchestras, professional musicians and educators established to address the lack of racial equity in the classical music field by aligning resources and collaborating to strengthen the trajectory of classical instrumentalists of color at all stages of their pre-careers.

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The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra gratefully acknowledges support from:

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