A MUSIC PODCAST FOR FREELANCERS REBRANDS TO REACH MUSICIANS EVERYWHERE

THE MUSICIANCENTRIC PODCAST AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE SEPTEMBER 29!

"The MusicianCentric Podcast explores diverse perspectives in the music field by creating a space for conversations that inspire musicians, particularly freelancers, to feel a sense of agency in their lives"



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Washington, DC-based professional violists Liz O'Hara and Stephanie Knutsen are continuing to grow and evolve their podcast (formerly titled *ViolaCentric*) with the announcement of their new image and title: *The MusicianCentric Podcast*. The podcast is immediately available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and wherever you get your podcasts.

"Freelancers are the biggest subset and some of the hardest working musicians in the world, but for ages, we've often felt like the ones that didn't 'make it'," says Stephanie Knutsen, co-host of the MusicianCentric podcast. "Our episodes make a point to highlight musicians who are making a career the way most of us do, by cobbling together and choosing opportunities that speak to them and their artistic and personal goals and interests."

Co-host Liz O'Hara adds, "We're also experiencing a major cultural shift, extending into the field of music, that is asking us to examine the ways in which our traditional practices may no longer be serving us. There are countless individuals out there tirelessly innovating ways to facilitate positive change and a sense of empowerment for musicians. We are proud to be a part of this effort by offering a platform for exploring these incredibly important conversations."

"The evolution of MusicianCentric into an inclusive platform of unique conversations for all musicians has been an inspiration," says Jim Kelly, co-owner of Potter Violins. "As a sponsor, we feel aligned with the mission to engage in dialogues as a collective community. Congrats to MusicianCentric on the exciting upcoming season."

Launched in 2020, the podcast has produced 3 complete seasons and over 50 episodes featuring some of the top musicians and experts in the industry including: Bassist Joe Conyers (newly-appointed Principal Bass of the Philadelphia Orchestra), "Viola Mom" Rebecca Young (Associate Principal Violist, NY Phil), Brian Balmages (composer, MakeMusic Publications), "That Viola Kid" Drew Forde (Whole Soul String Quartet, co-host, *Faking Notes*), Mei-Ann Chen (conductor, The Chicago Sinfonietta), violinist Melissa White, violist Matthew Lipman, Tanner Guss (host, *The Happy Musician* podcast), Carol Rodland (professor of viola, The Julliard School) and many more.

In 2022, Liz and Steph launched a fun recap of the Amazon Prime Video series *Mozart in the Jungle*, which has gained a cult following among their listeners.

"We hope that our episodes are sparks that start other, bigger conversations in our field and that as a community, we can make our profession work better for us all."

ABOUT LIZ AND STEPH

Liz O'Hara and Stephanie Knutsen are professional freelance violists, friends, and colleagues living in the Washington, DC area. In the spring of 2020, they, as did all entertainers, experienced an absolute evaporation of work. It was a time of struggle followed by reflection and re-examining, and they often came together for deep conversations about their work. Many thought-provoking questions were born of those chats, and the idea was hatched to start exploring more openly for a broader community of fellow musicians. Thus, the *ViolaCentric podcast* was born. After 3 seasons as "ViolaCentric", Liz and Steph are excited to start a new and exciting chapter as the "MusicianCentric Podcast". This name represents what the podcast has been all along: relatable to, and inclusive of, all musicians. MusicianCentric is a place where fellow musicians, music appreciators, or those simply seeking community and inspiration are welcome.

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