

REAL VOCAL STRING QUARTET

PEOPLE

Irene Sazer Alisa Rose Jessica Ivry Matthias McIntire

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Irene Sazer is an improvising violinist, composer, arranger, and singer whose unique style combines world and roots music with classical, jazz, and pop sensibilities. Known internationally as an original member of the Turtle Island String Quartet, Sazer's career has encompassed success as a concerto soloist, concertmaster, recording artist, and masterful educator of music and improvisation. Founder and director of the School of Strings and String Improvisation in Berkeley, California. Sazer's own recording *First Things First* highlights her original voice as a singer and songwriter. An in-demand genre-hopping violinist, Irene has recorded and/or performed with Jai Uttal, Ali Akbar Khan, Ella Fitzgerald, Ray Charles, Natalie Cole, Frank Sinatra, Smoky Robinson, David Grisman, Linda Rondstadt, Bjork, Maria Marquez, and Billy Joel. Passionate about combining her musical interests in new ways, Sazer continues to push boundaries, exploring the world with her violin, her voice, and her imagination, creating music for RVSQ and for solo projects.

Violinist, composer and arranger **Alisa Rose** has performed with diverse artists including Grammy nominated Quartet San Francisco, 2008 Rockygrass winners 49 Special, and the Picasso Quartet. Alisa has performed at Carnegie Hall, on NPR's Weekend Edition, at the historic Carter Family Fold festival in Virginia, at TEDx Alcatraz with Bob Weir, on PBS "Song of the Mountains," at the Blue Highways Festival in Utrecht, Netherlands, as well internationally including in China, Korea, Japan, and Turkey. Alisa has composed original scores for Club Foot Orchestra, 49 Special, Sqwonk, Quartet San Francisco and through Strings Letter Publishing. Alisa teaches privately and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music preparatory department.

Matthias McIntire, violist, violinist and composer, has performed alongside such renowned musicians as members of the St. Lawrence and Miro String Quartets and jazz pianist Vijay Iyer. In addition to his work as violist and vocalist with the Real Vocal String Quartet, he plays violin with Vocollective, an ensemble dedicated to the performance of chamber music that includes voice, as well as with conductor-less chamber orchestra One Found Sound. As a composer Matthias has written music for the Real Vocal String Quartet, as well as for Vocollective, Phonochrome, The Guerrilla Composers Guild, One Found Sound, and Pocket Concerts. In May 2015 OFS will premiere his piece *The Forest Reclaims the Land* for chamber orchestra. Matthias teaches violin, improvisation and composition at the SF Friends School and the Hamlin School.

Cellist **Jessica Ivry** has performed or recorded with Amy X Neuburg, Bauhaus, Beats Antique, Beth Custer, David J., Feist, Kitka, Sharon Jones & the Dap Kings, Thao & the Get Down Stay Down, and Vienna Teng. She played on Grammy nominated, *Blueprint of a Lady* for Jazz vocalist, Nneena Freelon. Recently, she has performed for theater productions including *The Orphan of Zhao* (A.C.T. San Francisco & La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego); *An Audience with Meow Meow*, *Pericles: Prince of Tyre*, and *Figaro* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre). Jessica also composed original music for *Death of a Salesman* and *The Bright River* (A Traveling Jewish Theatre, San Francisco). Jessica teaches music at the College of Marin and at the San Francisco Community Music Center.