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### James Baik, cello

Cellist **James Baik** has been described as an artist with “an undeniable authority,” and one possessing “a real warmth emerging in lyricism” by *Le Soir*, after his astounding performance at the 2021 Queen Elisabeth competition. Winner of the 2023 YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions and recipient of the Paul A. Fish Memorial Prize and the Bridgehampton Chamber Music Prize, James is a YCA Jacobs Fellow.

James has recently appeared as soloist in Beethoven’s *Triple Concerto* with the Mobile Symphony alongside fellow YCA artists Benjamin Baker and Chaeyoung Park, and in Shostakovich’s *Cello Concerto No. 1* with the Hamilton College Symphony Orchestra. He has also been featured in recital and chamber music performances with the Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival, BIG ARTS Sanibel Island, the Buffalo Chamber Music Society, Hayden’s Ferry Chamber Music Series, and on the YCA Series at The Morgan Library & Museum in New York. Upcoming highlights include his debuts at the Kennedy Center and at New York’s Merkin Hall at Kaufman Music Center, as well as a return to Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall for YCA’s Season Finale.

An active chamber musician, James plays as a member of the Galvin Cello Quartet. He has collaborated with Noah Bendix-Balgley, David Finckel, Wu Han, Emanuel Ax, Arnaud Sussmann, Miriam Fried, Gary Hoffman, Gilbert Kalish, Bob McDonald, and members of the Tokyo, Pacifica, and Escher String Quartets.

Raised in Houston, Texas, James’ education included studies with Houston Symphony Associate Principal Christopher French and with Hans Jørgen Jensen. James holds a BM from Colburn Conservatory of Music where he studied with Clive Greensmith.