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## Alex Fortes

A native of San Diego, New York-based violinist Alex Fortes is recognized for his versatility and warmth. Recent performances have included concerts in France, Germany, Denmark, Austria, and Indonesia, as well as throughout North America. His playing is featured on A Far Cry's 2014 Grammy-nominated album, *Dreams and Prayers*, as well as on *Law of Mosaics*, which *The New Yorker's* Alex Ross hailed as one of the top ten albums of 2014. He can also be heard on a forthcoming album with the Henschel Quartett and pianist Donald Berman featuring the music of Chris Theofanidis.

Fortes holds a strong interest in finding new contexts in which to experience familiar music. His arrangements of Schubert lieder and chamber music were hailed by the *Boston Globe* as "uniformly resourceful and complementary...smart, subtle." In May 2016, A Far Cry premiered his arrangement with Sarah Darling of Bach's Goldberg Variations in collaboration with pianist Simone Dinnerstein.

A strong advocate for the importance of social and civic engagement, Alex spent a year working as an administrator and playing for the Longwood Symphony, an orchestra associated with Boston's medical community that uses its performances to raise funds and awareness for medical nonprofits. In May 2010, he was chosen by former U.S. Senator and New School President Bob Kerrey to be the student speaker at the New School's commencement ceremony, where he spoke about the importance of interdisciplinary cooperation and civic engagement for fostering innovation and strong communities.

Alex has participated in educational residencies in both English and Spanish related to entrepreneurship, music performance and education, at colleges and public schools throughout the United States. He holds music degrees from Mannes College and a B.A. in Government from Harvard College.

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