

Community Performance Series is proud to present composer and pianist Daniel Kelly's project "Voices from the Farm: A Tribute to the Farmers of the North Country." CPS was chosen as one of six presenters from across New York State to take part in Daniel's project. Over the past several months, the Brooklyn-based jazz artist interviewed farmers and members of the agricultural community in St. Lawrence County. Using these recorded interviews as inspiration, Daniel composed an hour-long musical suite that celebrates the rich agricultural heritage of Northern New York.

Daniel has performed with Grammy-award winning jazz legends Michael Brecker and Joe Lovano, hip-hop star Lauryn Hill, and modern classical giants The Bang on a Can All-Stars. He served as a US Jazz Ambassador performing concerts throughout Southeast Asia and India. For this world premiere, Daniel's quintet will feature some of the finest musicians from the New York City jazz and folk scenes, including guitarist Joel Harrison and vocalist lean Rohe.

Violin/fiddle instructor and performer Gretchen Koehler will be joining Daniel's band for the concert. Gretchen, a Potsdam native, was the latest inductee into the NY State Fiddler's Hall of Fame.

Daniel's main inspiration for his work is interacting closely with members of a community and gathering their stories. By weaving recorded voices into his original compositions, community members will hear their voices and those of their neighbors in a new way.

Community Performance Series is grateful to our friends at Traditional Arts of Upstate NY, North Country Public Radio and Cornell Cooperative Extension who have provided assistance for this project's development.

