

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 1, 2022

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fivebyfive Announces Guitarist Ken Luk as New Ensemble Member

Rochester, NY—The award-winning, artist led Rochester, NY-based music ensemble fiveby-five today announced Ken Luk (pronounced "Luke") as its new electric guitarist. five-byfive Artistic Director and flutist Laura Lentz acknowledged and thanked Sungmin Shin for his "lasting legacy" as the group's founding guitarist.

"We are thrilled to have Ken join us as the newest member of our group" said Lentz. "As a multi-gifted musician—guitarist, mandolinist, and arranger—Ken brings tremendous talent, musicality, and a wonderful sense of ensemble to fivebyfive. We are excited to start this new chapter with Ken."

Ken is equally elated about his new role. "I am honored and thrilled to join fivebyfive as their guitarist," he said, "and I look forward to making a lot of music with such a fun and imaginative group of musicians!"

In July, Ken will make his concert debut as a permanent member of fivebyfive in the group's <u>"Playful Music 2"</u> series at the Lincoln, Winton, and Lyell branch libraries and at the Strong Museum.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Ken Luk frequently appears as a soloist and with the Janus Guitar Duo and Trio Ghidorah. He performs with Rosa Boemia, Forró Estrelas do Norte, Mosaic Foundation, the Eastman Gamelan Ensemble, and the Rochester Mandolin Orchestra. Performance highlights include Experiencing Villa-Lobos Festival, Live from Hochstein, Rochester Fringe Festival, The Great Blue Heron Festival, and Grassroots Festival of Music and Dance, among others.

Co-founder of Rochester Classical Guitar and the Rochester Mandolin Orchestra, Ken is also an avid arranger, and was a finalist in the 2017 Roland Dyens Arranging International Competition. He also serves on the board of the Classical Mandolin Society of America.

Ken received his Doctor of Musical Arts in classical guitar with Professor Nicholas Goluses at the Eastman School of Music where he also earned a master's degree in music theory pedagogy.

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fivebyfive (flute, clarinet, electric guitar, bass, and piano) is an artist-led, Rochester, NY-based ensemble formed in 2015 with a mission to engage audiences in the collaborative spirit and creativity of today's chamber music. fivebyfive performs music of today's leading and emerging composers from around the world; advocates for creators who are underrepresented in the field; and collaborates with artists across disciplines. www.fivebyfivemusic.com