Sonoma Musica Viva
Brian S. Wilson, music director

Brainchild of composer-conductor Brian S. Wilson, Sonoma Musica Viva is a chamber music alliance that specializes in 20th and 21st century music utilizing the talents of Sonoma State University’s music faculty alongside talented and qualified SSU music majors.

Sonoma Musica Viva's debut concert featured Hungarian and Czech music written before 1940, including Béla Bartók's Contrasts for clarinet, violin and piano, Mikrokosmos for piano, and Leoš Janáček's wonderfully melodious Capriccio for piano left hand, flute, two trumpets, three trombones and tenor tuba.

Subsequent concerts have featured an all Stravinsky/Ravel concert and an all Messiaen concert featuring the French composers 'Oiseaux exotiques' ("Exotic birds"), solo piano and orchestra. Featured musicians have included pianists Marilyn Thompson and Matthew Arnerich, violinist Beni Shinohara, clarinetist Roy Zajac, cellist Judiyaba and vocalist Carol Menke.

Sonoma Musica Viva also sponsors the Sonoma State University Faculty Composers Concert, a yearly Spring happening.

Sonoma Musica Viva's goal is to make a wider public aware of new music. Sonoma Music Viva is committed to bringing to life great, If often overlooked, works for conducted ensembles of mixed instrumentation.

Sonoma Music Viva concerts have an inviting and informal atmosphere, without the trappings of traditional stuffy classical concerts.