



2017

2017 School of Music News

WMU School of Music

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2017 School of Music News

PEN Trio to present new works for oboe, clarinet, bassoon and electronics

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 7, 2017 | WMU NEWS



PEN Trio

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The PEN Trio will present a program at Western Michigan University at **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

The concert will feature newly composed music for the PEN Trio + electronics by Charles Nichols and Daniel Eichenbaum as well as the world premiere of "Entanglement," an interactive audiovisual work for solo oboe and computer composed by Christopher Biggs and performed by PEN Trio oboist Nora Lewis. Biggs and Lewis serve on the faculty of WMU's School of Music. Composer Charles Nichols will be in residence with the PEN Trio and will work with composition and music technology students during his visit.

The performance will be preceded by a 7 p.m. discussion hosted by **Dr. Robert White**. Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students, and are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

PEN TRIO

The PEN Trio bridges performance and scholarship to explore and expand the repertoire for the traditional trio d'anches. The ensemble regularly tours throughout North America and abroad and has become known for the quality and energy of their performances. The PEN Trio has visited dozens of leading universities and has performed at numerous academic conferences, chamber music series and private functions. Recent highlights include performances in Cuba, Guatemala,

China, Hong Kong, Panama and Trinidad, as well as appearances at the annual conferences of the International Double Reed Society, ClarinetFest, College Music Society, National Flute Association Convention, and National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors, as well as radio broadcasts on Michigan and Alabama Public Radio, as well as national radio stations in Cuba (CBMF) and Guatemala (TGW).

The group's upcoming season includes concerts in Arizona, Costa Rica, Indiana and Michigan. PEN Trio members recently recorded their debut album, "Found Objects" in New York City with Boston-based Soundmirror. The album will include new works, written expressly for the ensemble, by William Bradbury, Jenni Brandon, M. Shawn Hundley and Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn with an anticipated commercial release in 2018.

The members of the PEN Trio are passionate about performance, education and scholarship, and the group is dedicated to expanding the scope of the traditional trio d'anches as well as bringing the intimate yet intense sound of this unique instrumentation to a wider audience. The term trio d'anches was coined by bassoonist Fernand Oubradous in 1927 to describe the now legendary Trio d'Anches de Paris. This celebrated group featured the three reed instruments commonly found in the orchestra oboe, clarinet and bassoon. Popular mythology asserts that the group came together to explore a more perfect blend of timbres known as "une parfaite homogénéité," that is not available to the standard woodwind quintet instrumentation, which includes the distinct and varied timbres of ute and horn.

The PEN Trio was formed, in many ways, to continue the work that the Trio d'Anches de Paris began nearly 100 years ago. Since 2010, the PEN Trio has premiered works by William Bradbury, Jenni Brandon, Allen Cohen, Jon Grier, M. Shawn Hundley, Peter James Learn, Wendy Wan-Ki Lee and Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, and has promoted these works in concert around the world. In 2013, the PEN Trio partnered with Trevor Cramer and TrevCo-Publishing to create the PEN Trio Collection. This collection includes new works as well as new editions of existing works to make the trio d'anches more accessible to musicians around the globe.

BULLOCK MUSIC PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE

Established in the fall of 1985 and renamed in 1988 in honor of its founder, the institute's mission is to add to the already rich cultural life of Kalamazoo by creating opportunities to develop closer personal and artistic ties between audience and performer. The institute has presented events ranging from formal evening concerts to daytime educational outreach events for students and local audiences of all ages.

For more information about the Wednesday evening concert series, call (269) 387-4704 or (269) 387-4678, or visit wmich.edu/music.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Renowned trombonist to perform at WMU

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Wilson

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—**Jeremy Wilson**, associate professor of trombone at Vanderbilt University, will be performing a solo recital at **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

The performance will be preceded by a **7 p.m. discussion hosted by Dr. Robert White**. Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students, and are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

WILSON

Prior to his appointment at Vanderbilt, Wilson was a member of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and its sister organization, the orchestra of the Vienna State Opera. He joined those orchestras at the age of 25 after winning what was his first-ever orchestral audition, and in 2010 became one of just a handful of Americans to have ever been made a full member of the Vienna Philharmonic Society. He performed hundreds of concerts as a "Wiener Philharmoniker," the vast majority of which were under the batons of the world's leading conductors, including Daniel Barenboim, Pierre Boulez, Gustavo Dudamel, Valery Gergiev, Mariss Jansons, Lorin Maazel, Zubin Mehta, Riccardo Muti, Seiji Ozawa, Sir Simon Rattle, Christian Thielemann and Franz Welser-Möst.

Wilson was privileged to travel extensively while with the Philharmonic, performing in 28 countries throughout Europe, East Asia, the Middle East, Australia and North America, often with renowned soloists such as Lang Lang, Yefim Bronfman and Yo-Yo Ma. He performed in many of the world's most famous concert halls, including Tokyo's Suntory Hall, the Sydney Opera House, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Los Angeles' Walt Disney Hall, London's Royal Albert Hall, and New York's Carnegie Hall, not to mention the Golden Hall of the Philharmonic's legendary home venue, the Wiener Musikverein.

At the Vienna State Opera, one of the world's finest and busiest opera houses, Wilson played more than 550 performances of 85 different operas and ballets, including five complete Wagner Ring cycles. He had the honor of performing with numerous prominent opera singers, including Renée Fleming, Juan Diego Florez, Elīna Garanča, Edita Gruberova, Thomas Hampson, Jonas Kaufmann and Anna Netrebko.

BULLOCK MUSIC PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE

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Stulberg silver medalist to perform with University Symphony Orchestra

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Chen

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The Western Michigan **University Symphony Orchestra** will perform the first concert of its 2017–18 season at **3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8**, in Miller Auditorium. Admission is free.

The concert is a collaborative event with the Stulberg International String Competition. 2017 Stulberg Competition silver medalist, violinist Qing Yu Chen, will be the featured soloist on the

Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Minor by Sergei Prokofiev. The concert will begin with Antonin Dvorak's festive Carnival Overture, Op. 92. The centerpiece of the concert is the popular Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64 by Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

WMU baritone presents free recital of operatic excerpts

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Ratner

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Faculty baritone and opera director **Carl Ratner** will celebrate a major birthday by presenting a recital of operatic excerpts with pianist **Gunta Laukmane** at **7:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17**, in Western Michigan University's Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Ratner will be joined in a program of arias and duets of Tchaikovsky, Verdi and Wagner by special guests **Barry Ross**, violin and former concertmaster of the Kalamazoo Symphony, WMU faculty soprano **Rhea Olivaccé** and Kalamazoo's own Metropolitan Opera star, contralto **Meredith Arwady**. The program will focus on the characters typical for the mature baritone: Fathers, Friends, Fiends and Fools.

The concert will also serve as a sendoff for performances Ratner will be giving in Saint Petersburg, Russia, and Ruse, Bulgaria, later this fall. Ratner first visited Saint Petersburg in

2010, when he received a Fulbright grant to study, teach, direct and perform at the State Conservatory where Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev and Shostakovich all studied. In October of this year, Ratner will collaborate with soprano Victoria Evtodieva on a concert of Tchaikovsky's vocal music. In November, Ratner will perform a program of operatic excerpts by Verdi and Wagner with full orchestra in Ruse, Bulgaria.

For more WMU news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Capitol Quartet to perform standard works, new music and jazz

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 15, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Capitol Quartet

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—After a brief visit to Western Michigan University this summer for the Seminar music camp, the Capitol Quartet will return to the Dalton Center Recital Hall with a program of saxophone quartet music at **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4.**

The group will premier two new works by composers Carter Pann and David Biedenbender. In addition to recent works written for the ensemble by Evan Hause, Andrew Bishop and John Fitz Rogers, the Capitol Quartet will bring selections from the standard repertoire, arrangements of jazz tunes as well as a rendition of Debussy's String Quartet to the stage. Carter Pann's "The Mechanics: Six from the Shop Floor," a 2016 Pulitzer finalist composition written for the group, will be the centerpiece of the concert.

The performance will be preceded by a 7 p.m. discussion hosted by **Dr. Robert White**. Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students, and are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

THE CAPITOL QUARTET

The Capitol Quartet is widely considered among the most exciting chamber ensembles performing today. Comprised of saxophonists who are teaching faculty at leading music schools, the group has captured the imaginations of critics and audiences alike. Combining innovative repertoire with virtuosic playing and an energetic, engaging stage presence, the quartet brings a unique brand of entertainment to the concert stage. Since its formation in 1991, the quartet has performed regularly at major concert venues throughout the United States, earning wide acclaim for its musical versatility and innovative style.

The Capitol Quartet's eclectic repertoire features contemporary works for saxophone, transcriptions of classical and jazz favorites, jazz originals, and traditional French quartet compositions. It is also committed to expanding the repertoire of the saxophone quartet, having commissioned new works for saxophone quartet by such composers as Stacy Garrop, Evan Hause, Mark Weiser, Charles Ruggiero, John Fitz Rogers, John Anthony Lennon, Greg Wanamaker, Perry Goldstein, Whitney Ash, Carter Pann and others.

Dedicated to advancing music education, the Capitol Quartet regularly performs and lectures at national and state music educators conferences, appearing at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Conference, Illinois Music Educators Conference, Connecticut Music Educators Conference, Virginia Music Educators Conference, MENC Eastern Division Conference, NAFME Eastern Division Conference, American Band College, Bands of America's Summer Symposium, and many more. The quartet also has performed master classes and educational programs at numerous schools and universities throughout the country.

BULLOCK MUSIC PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE

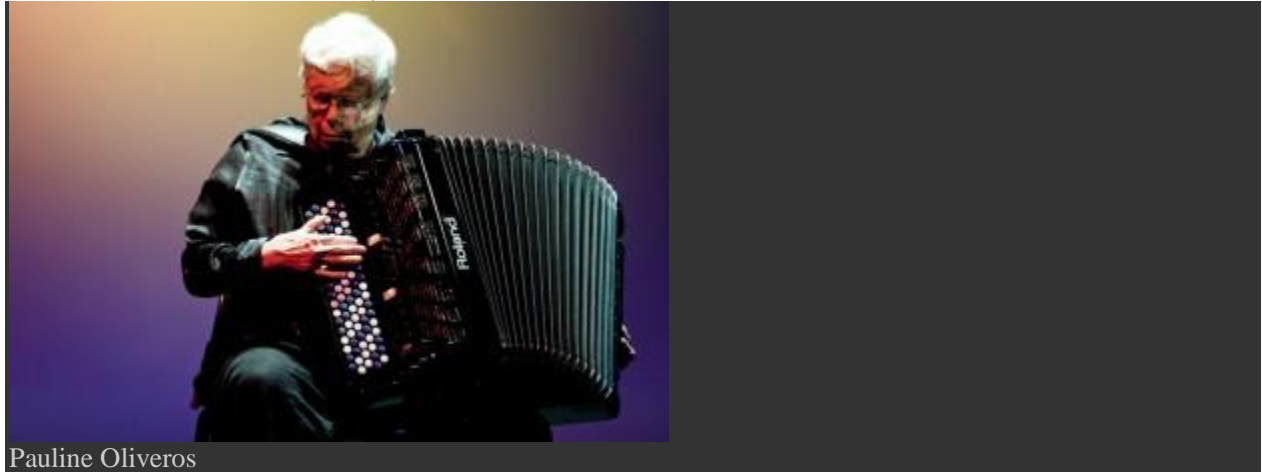
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Technology-based music performance featured at WMU

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Pauline Oliveros

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Digital Music Ensemble will be collaborating with Western Michigan University School of Music students to bring an immersive concert of renowned music innovator Pauline Oliveros' work to the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event, which begins at **8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6**, is free and open to the public.

DIGITAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE

Digital Music Ensemble is a technology-based interdisciplinary performance troupe that collaborates in the creation and performance of new works of art and performs historically innovative works. Headed by University of Michigan Professor Stephen Rush, DME uses methods of open-ended critical inquiry to challenge meaning in the creation, realization and performance of art. The ensemble will be performing works by the renowned music innovator Pauline Oliveros. Oliveros revolutionized contemporary music practices through her love of sound, her thoughtful improvisation and the approach she coined "deep listening."

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Accomplished trombonist Brad Edwards to perform in free recital at WMU

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Edwards

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—**Brad Edwards**, trombone professor at Arizona State University, will present a guest recital at **7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9**, in Western Michigan University's Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

With a style that has been variously described as "passionate," "fiercely vigorous," and even "humorous," Edwards has appeared as a soloist before audiences in the United States and Europe. His solo credits include radio and television broadcasts, premieres of new music, guest recitals at colleges and regional workshops, and concertos with student and professional orchestras and wind ensembles. He has twice been featured as a soloist with "Pershing's Own" U.S. Army Band at the American Trombone Workshop in Washington, D.C. As a member of the Air Force Concert Band, he was twice featured as a soloist.

His CD, "Trombone And...", features concert duets pairing the trombone with other instruments. It includes several works written for and premiered by him as well as one of his own compositions, Five American Folksong Sketches. Of this recording, Audiophile magazine wrote:

"Trombonist Brad Edwards is an accomplished musician. The performances are all excellent, and the pairings with other instruments, particularly the marimba are quite interesting."

EDWARDS

Edwards began teaching trombone at Arizona State University in 2016. Previously, he taught at the University of South Carolina as well as the University of Northern Iowa. Other teaching positions have included Franklin and Marshall University and Kinhaven Music School.

He is best known for his pedagogical books including, *Lip Slurs*, *Lip Slur Melodies* as well as the *Trombone Craft* and *Simply Singing for Winds* series. He has published a number of pieces through the International Trombone Association Press that are available from Warwick Music, including "Blue Wolf," which has been recorded three times, and "Four Impromptus for Low Bone Alone," which was selected for the national solo competition of the American Trombone Workshop. More recently, he was commissioned by the state of South Carolina to compose all-state audition solos for all woodwinds and brass on a three-year cycle. He has extended this project into a website, auditionsolos.com.

In addition to the Air Force Band, Edwards has held positions as principal trombonist of the South Carolina Philharmonic, Symphony Orchestra Augusta and the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Symphony. He has also been the bass trombonist of the Cedar Rapids Symphony and the Arlington Symphony in Virginia. He has performed with such ensembles as the Baltimore Symphony, the Kennedy Center Opera Orchestra, the brass choir of the National Symphony, Hartford Symphony, the Charleston Symphony, the Charlotte Symphony and the Baltimore Opera Orchestra and the Wintergreen and Cabrillo Festival Orchestras.

He has shared the stage with such diverse artists as Ray Charles, Dave Brubeck, Ben Folds, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Olivia Newton John, Wynona Judd, the Gatlin Brothers, Robert Merrill, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy and Roger Daltry. In 2007, he was selected to be participant at the prestigious Alessi Seminar in New Mexico.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Vocal supergroup MOSS to perform with WMU jazz ensembles

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON

SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 | WMU NEWS

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Vocal ensemble **MOSS**, the **Western Jazz Quartet**, **University Jazz Orchestra**, **Gold Company** and **Advanced Jazz Ensemble** will perform at **7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5**, in Western Michigan University's Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students, and are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.



MOSS

MOSS

Vocal supergroup MOSS intertwines jazz, classical, pop, folk, electronica, world music and poetry into a unique sonic species of art. It consists of five distinctive vocalists:

- **Theo Bleckmann**, the effusive German-American meistersinger and ECM-recording artist.
- **Peter Eldridge**, a melodic poet whose evocative songwriting wanders freely and deeply from genre to genre, also a member of the vocal quartet New York Voices.
- **Kate McGarry**, a Grammy-nominated vocal polymath equally at home with jazz and folk traditions.
- **Lauren Kinhan**, idiosyncratic composer, wordsmith and vocalist who also shares the New York Voices footprint.
- Newest member, Brooklyn-based Australian **Jo Lawry**, a singer-songwriter rooted in jazz who has become well-known beyond jazz circles for her work with Sting, Paul Simon and Peter Gabriel.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Trio performs with WMU emerita in free concert

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 | WMU NEWS

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The **Hofeldt-Phillips Trio** will be joined by soprano **Dr. Karen Wicklund**, Western Michigan University associate professor emerita of music, for a recital at **8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30**, in WMU's Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

The trio of **Betsey Hofeldt**, violin, **Mark Hofeldt**, cello, and **Stephen Phillips**, piano, from the Dayton Symphony will present a program including the Martinu Duo No. 2 for Violin and Cello and the Dvorak Piano Trio No. 4 in E minor, Opus 90. WMU emerita voice faculty soprano Karen Wicklund will also join the trio to present a 50th anniversary performance of the Opus 127 Blok Songs, composed in 1967 by Dmitri Shostakovich.

HOFELDT-PHILLIPS TRIO

The trio has been performing together for more than 20 years in many concert venues throughout the nation, including a recent concert tour in upstate New York and Pennsylvania. Violinist Betsey Hofeldt and soprano Wicklund first met as music majors at St. Olaf College, where they each earned Departmental Distinction awards. Wicklund was a WMU voice faculty member from 1997 to 2011.

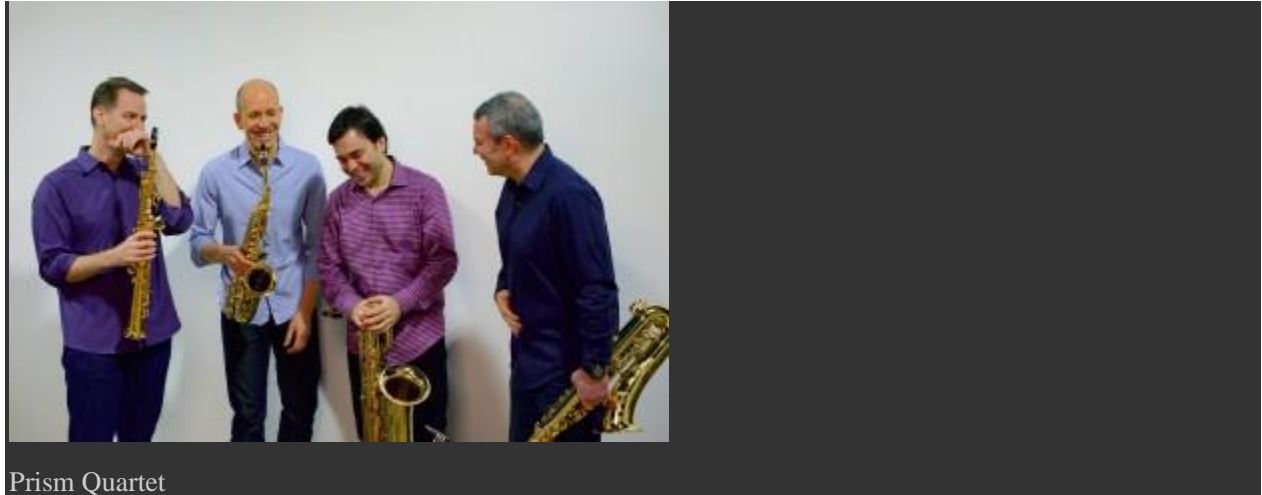
For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Prism Quartet to perform free recital and with Symphonic Band

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON

SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 | WMU NEWS



KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The Prism Quartet, a world-renowned saxophone group, will perform a recital at **8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall and then join the Western Michigan University Symphonic Band at **3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15**, at Miller Auditorium. Both concerts are free and open to the public.

SATURDAY'S PROGRAM

Saturday's program features music by several award-winning Michigan composers: Christopher Biggs, WMU); Kristin Kuster, University of Michigan; and Alexis Bacon, Michigan State University. The program includes the world premiere of Biggs' "Surfaces and Essences" and "Forbidden Drive," a new work by Pew Fellow and Prism's resident composer, Matthew Levy. "Forbidden Drive" features guest saxophonist Andrew Rathbun, WMU, whom the New York Times hails as an "industrious saxophonist and imaginative composer-arranger." Prism will also present an adaptation of "Fearful Symmetries" by Pulitzer Prize-winner John Adams from the Quartet's just released "Paradigm Lost" album (XAS Records). Plus, one of Prism's favorites, "Night Music," by rising-star Emma O'Halloran.

SUNDAY'S PROGRAM



University Symphonic Band

On Sunday, the WMU Symphonic Band's variety-packed program will feature the quartet performing William Bolcom's Concerto for Saxophone Quartet and Band. The Symphonic Band will also perform Roshanne Etezady's "Anahita," William Schuman's classic "George Washington Bridge" and John Philip Sousa's "Manhattan Beach" march.

For more information about the concerts, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Electric guitarists take the Dalton Center Recital Hall stage

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON

OCTOBER 9, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Oakland University Guitar Ensemble

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Guest artists from the Oakland University Guitar Ensemble will perform at **8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20**, in Western Michigan University’s Dalton Center Recital Hall. The recital is free and open to the public.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY GUITAR ENSEMBLE

The Oakland University Guitar Ensemble was established in 2007 under the direction of Bret Hoag. The ensemble has performed a wide array of music, ranging from traditional Segovian guitar repertoire to lesser-known works by non-European composers, as well as new music. In 2011, a quartet of guitarists from the ensemble won Oakland University’s Chamber Music Competition for its performance of Leo Brower’s seminal work, *Cuban Landscapes with Rain*. The ensemble has also commissioned works by composers John Griffin, James Hartway, Rafael Hernandez and Anthony Lanman, as well as multiple pieces by Terry Herald. Each year, the ensemble collaborates with the Oakland University Repertory Dance Company in an exciting project called *Dance with Guitar*. On Oct. 20, it will be performing works by Anthony Lanman, Miguel Llobet, Carlo Domeniconi, Terry Herald, Lennox Berkeley and Lisa Renée Coons, WMU assistant professor of music.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

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MacArthur Genius Fellow brings Cuban jazz to campus

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
OCTOBER 16, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Prieto

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Cuban-born drummer and 2011 MacArthur Genius Fellow **Dafnis Prieto** will bring his sextet to Western Michigan University for a night of exciting music at **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Prieto, a conservatory-trained artist, is also steeped in Afro-Cuban folkloric music, the European classical tradition and post-bop jazz improvisation. His most recent recording, "Triangles and Circles," features his talents as a drummer and composer and has received glowing reviews from the New York Times, DownBeat Magazine and a feature on National Public Radio's Fresh Air.

The concert is made possible through the support of Chamber Music America and the WMU jazz studies program.

Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$5 for students. They are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

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Katrovas to combine storytelling and song in recital of Czech composers

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
OCTOBER 16, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Katrovas

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Michigan University School of Music alumna and soprano **Ema Katrovas** will perform a recital of songs by Czech composers at **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

The recital, titled "Sung into the Distance," showcases the songs of famous Czech 20th-century composer Bohuslav Martinů and his student and close friend Vítězslava Kaprálová. The recital will be accompanied by commentary on the composers' four-year friendship and the pre-World War II era they lived in. The project is under the auspices of Opera Studio Prague, a student-led, multidisciplinary performance group based in the Czech Republic. The recital will be accompanied by **Dr. Timothy Cheek** of the University of Michigan, who has dedicated much of his career to the promotion and interpretation of the work of Vítězslava Kaprálová.

KATROVAS

Ema Katrovas hails from the Czech Republic, where she just finished her studies at Prague's Academy of Music. While still a student at the academy, she began performing at professional opera houses across the Czech Republic. She debuted as Barbarina in W.A. Mozart's "Le Nozze

di Figaro" with the Kammer Oper Prague and toured Germany and Austria as the First Lady in "Die Zauberflöte" with the F.X. Šalda Theater in Liberec, where she subsequently sang La Charmeuse in Massenet's "Thaïs." In 2017, she debuted at the Silesian Theater in Opava as the First Nymph in "Rusalka" by A. Dvořák. She is also an active concert soloist in Prague, regularly performing with various instrumental and choral ensembles.

She is the daughter of Richard Katrovas, WMU creative writing professor and founder of the Prague Summer Program for Writers. This October will be her first visit to the United States since she received her bachelor's degree in music and English at WMU in 2013.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Guest artist recital features southern California jazz pianist

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
OCTOBER 17, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Jazz pianist Josh Nelson will perform on campus at a free recital.

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Southern California pianist, composer and bandleader Josh Nelson will perform at **7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 29**, in Western Michigan University's Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Nelson has performed with some of the most respected names in jazz, including Kurt Elling, John Pizzarelli, Benny Golson, Sheila Jordan, John Clayton, George Mraz, Jeff Hamilton, Dave Koz, Joe Chambers and Peter Erskine. Appearing for one night in Kalamazoo, he'll be joined by WMU faculty members Scott Cowan, Andrew Rathbun, Greg Jasperse and Keith Hall and WMU student Matt Epperson.

“Josh is that rare young musician who has not only a wealth of study and experience under his belt—all but assuring him a prominent place in jazz music—but he also possesses those rarest of musical attributes: a touch, a tone and a ‘sound’ that are all identifiably his own,” says Erskine, a legendary drummer.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Wisconsin Brass Quintet to perform Bach, Schuller and Etler

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON

OCTOBER 12, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Wisconsin Brass Quintet

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The Wisconsin Brass Quintet will perform at **5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19**, in Western Michigan University’s Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

WISCONSIN BRASS QUINTET

Regarded as one of the “superb brass ensembles in the USA,” according to Musicweb International, and praised for “remarkable musicianship and versatility” by the International Trumpet Guild Journal, the widely acclaimed Wisconsin Brass Quintet will be returning to the WMU campus to perform works including J.S. Bach’s Partita No. 4, Gunther Schuller’s Music for Brass Quintet and Alvin Etler’s Quintet for Brass Instruments.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Students and faculty perform side-by-side for an exciting concert

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
OCTOBER 21, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Western Winds

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Winds will present a varied selection of music from the 19th and 20th centuries at **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The ensembles are comprised of faculty and graduate students from the brass, wind and percussion studios in the School of Music at Western Michigan University.

The performance will be preceded by a **7 p.m.** discussion hosted by **Dr. Robert White**. Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students, and are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

This exciting program will feature the music of Tippett, Taffanel, Sampson and Bird; and it will feature tuba professor Jacob Cameron and piano professor Yu-Lien The performing Broughton's "Sonata for Tuba and Piano." Western Winds is conducted by **Scott Boerma**.

BULLOCK MUSIC PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE

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Bronco Marching Band comes to Miller Auditorium

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
OCTOBER 21, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Bronco Marching Band

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Michigan University's Bronco Marching Band will be presenting its annual "Season in Review" concert in Miller Auditorium at **3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5.**

Purchase tickets online:

millerauditorium.com

Included on this year's program are selections from all of the band's halftime shows as well as WMU classics such as "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo," "Hot Time," the WMU Fight Song and the WMU Alma Mater. The color guard and feature twirlers will add a special visual touch to the program.

Finally, plans are underway for special appearances of the WMU Dance team and Buster Bronco himself. Director of the Bronco Marching Band, **Dr. David Montgomery**, promises "an afternoon of fun for the whole family."

TICKETS

Tickets for the "Season in Review" concert at Miller Auditorium are on sale now for \$12 for general admission, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. They can be purchased online at millerauditorium.com, by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 387-2312, or in person at the Miller Auditorium Ticket Office.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Symphony Orchestra performs works by Beethoven and Ravel

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
OCTOBER 21, 2017 | WMU NEWS



The Symphony Orchestra's performance will feature works by Beethoven and Ravel.

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Michigan University's Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Bruce Uchimura, will perform at **7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

The concert will include Ludwig van Beethoven's "Overture to Fidelio," his only known opera, and his "Symphony No. 4 in B-Flat Major Op. 60." Also on the program will be Maurice Ravel's "Le Tombeau de Couperin," an orchestral transcription of an original piano piece that paid homage to French music from the 18th century. The music demonstrates Ravel's mastery of orchestral color and texture.

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

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Evening concert features music inspired by whale songs

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
NOVEMBER 8, 2017 | WMU NEWS



KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Michigan University faculty, students and guest cellist Alexa Muhly will present music inspired by whale songs at **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

The performance will be preceded by a **7 p.m. discussion** hosted by **Dr. Robert White**. Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students, and are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

The evening concert features George Crumb's "Vox Balaenae." Late in the 1960s, Crumb heard a tape recording prepared by a marine scientist of the sounds emitted by the humpback whale. In 1971, he drew on these sounds as the inspiration. Although the piece has eight movements, they are grouped into three structurally similar parts: the first two movements, five variations named after geologic time periods, and the last movement. Also on the program will be a performance of Toru Takemitsu's "Rain Tree Sketch," Jennifer Higdon's "Zaka," and WMU composer Richard Johnson's "AnnoD" for trumpet, percussion, piano and electronic sounds.

Besides Muhly, performing will be Martha Councill-Vargas, flute, and Lori Sims, piano; and *Birds on a Wire*, directed by David Colson.

MUHLY

Muhly teaches cello performance and music theory at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines, Illinois. She has performed in the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany, Hungary and Lithuania and is an active orchestral and chamber musician in the Chicago area.

She was the principal cellist of the Kalamazoo Symphony and appeared with the Grand Rapids Symphony and the Pine Mountain Music Festival.

BULLOCK MUSIC PERFORMANCE INSTITUTE

Established in the fall of 1985 and renamed in 1988 in honor of its founder, the institute's mission is to add to the already rich cultural life of Kalamazoo by creating opportunities to develop closer personal and artistic ties between audience and performer. The institute has presented events ranging from formal evening concerts to daytime educational outreach events for students and local audiences of all ages.

For more information about the Wednesday evening concert series, call (269) 387-4704 or (269) 387-4678, or visit wmich.edu/music.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

'A Choral Christmas' comes to Kalamazoo

CONTACT: DEANNE PUCA

NOVEMBER 15, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Nearly 200 students and community members will be involved in "A Choral Christmas" performances.

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Six of Western Michigan University's choirs will present a variety of cherished holiday classics in the beloved annual concert, "A Choral Christmas," at **4 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2**, at the First Presbyterian Church, 321 W. South St., in downtown Kalamazoo.

Purchase tickets online:

millerauditorium.com

The concert will include performances by the University Chorale, Collegiate Singers and Holiday Grand Chorus, directed by Kimberly Dunn Adams; Cantus Femina, directed by Dee Gauthier; and Gold Company, directed by Greg Jasperse. Member of Campus Choir, directed by

Victoria Jackson and Austin McWilliams, will join the Holiday Grand Chorus for the closing numbers. University organist Karl Schrock is also featured.

The concert will celebrate the love and joy of the season with familiar congregational carols, Gregorian chants, and surround-sound staging that utilizes every aspect of the beautiful First Presbyterian Church's architecture. Additional musical selections represent a variety of musical styles.

"A Choral Christmas" is a decades-long tradition at WMU. Almost 200 students and community members will be involved in the performances. This concert features more of the School of Music's internationally-recognized choral ensembles together on stage than any other holiday event.

TICKETS

Tickets for "A Choral Christmas" at First Presbyterian Church are on sale now and are \$15 for general admission, \$12 for seniors and \$5 for students. They can be purchased online at millerauditorium.com, by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858, or in person at the Miller Auditorium Ticket Office. They will also be available at the door the day of the event.

Doors open 25 minutes prior to each performance. First Presbyterian is wheelchair accessible.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

University Percussion Ensemble offers free fall concert

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON
NOVEMBER 22, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Members of the University Percussion Ensemble

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The University Percussion Ensemble fall concert will consist of early landmark compositions for percussion at **7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5**, in Western Michigan University's Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

The performance will include "Ionisation" by Edgard Varese, conducted by percussion graduate assistant Bradford Crossland, and "Second Construction" by John Cage, combined with new works including "Gravity" by Marc Mellits and "Disarchitecture" by Dave Hall.

In addition, the ensemble will honor the memory of David Maslanka, a well-respected composer of works for percussion, by performing his "Crown of Thorns."

For more information about the concert, visit wmich.edu/music or call (269) 387-4667.

For more news, arts and events, visit wmich.edu/news.

Award-winning jazz faculty member to perform his arrangements

CONTACT: DANNIELLE STURGEON

NOVEMBER 22, 2017 | WMU NEWS



Cowan

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—Western Michigan University's Dr. Scott Cowan, associate professor of music, will present "Quintessentially Cowan: The ensembles and music of Dr. Scott Cowan" at **7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29**, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

Led by award-winning jazz trumpeter, composer and arranger Cowan, the performance will include ensemble sizes from quintet to big band in a diverse repertoire of original music. Cowan has been performing for decades from the East coast to the Midwest, and his music has been described by critics as "evocative and ambitious," "imaginative," "contemporary with a nouveau twist," "fresh and original," "tasty and hypnotic" and "rhapsodic."

The performance will be preceded by a 7 p.m. discussion hosted by **Dr. Robert White**.

Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students, and are available from Miller Auditorium [online](#) or by calling (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.

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