

The D'Angelo Department of Music
at
Mercyhurst University

Presents

Faculty Recital

Featuring

Isabel Ong, violin
Rebecca Wunch, clarinet
Nathan Hess, piano

Walker Recital Hall
Wednesday, March 2, 2022
8:00pm



MERCYHURST
UNIVERSITY

D'ANGELO DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

www.mercyhurst.edu/music

PROGRAM

Four Pieces, Op. 7
Sehr langsam
Rasch
Sehr langsam
Bewegt

Anton Webern
(1883-1945)

Isabel Ong, violin
Nathan Hess, piano

Three Pieces for Solo Jazz Clarinet
I. Rhapsody
II. Blues

Andy Firth
(b. 1965)

Rebecca Wunch, clarinet

Sonata in E-flat Major, Op. 12, No. 3
Allegro con spirito
Adagio con molta espressione
Rondo: Allegro molto

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Isabel Ong, violin
Nathan Hess, piano

Concerto for Clarinet (1947-48)
Slowly and expressively
Rather fast

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Rebecca Wunch, clarinet
Nathan Hess, piano

The use of recording devices is strictly prohibited. Please turn off and stow all electronic devices. Thank you.

BIOGRAPHIES

Violinist **Isabel Ong** is an avid chamber musician with a passion for contemporary music - in addition to serving as a member of the New Juilliard Ensemble led by Joel Sachs at the Juilliard School, she has performed at venues such as Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, National Sawdust, and MOMA and most recently, was invited to perform in the Lucerne Festival Academy Orchestra in Switzerland.

An advocate for using the power of music to serve a greater humanitarian purpose, Isabel has organized and perform concerts with ASAP (Advocates for Southeast Asians and the Persecuted) honoring their non-profit service of spreading higher education and implementing healthier and cleaner living conditions for the people of Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam. Whenever she is able to, Isabel travels to Taiwan to collaborate with the Adventist Women's Ministry and other missionaries to promote the arts. During the 2017-2018 season, Isabel was an inaugural member of the Spark Collective, an ensemble designed to perform new works by current compositional students at the University of South Carolina, and curate and perform interactive concerts for the community. Additionally, Isabel strongly believes in supporting the artists of today's world. In November of 2020, she co-founded a multidisciplinary art collective, called The Present Kairos, that specializes in collaborating, writing and performing music with diverse ensembles. An equally dedicated teacher, Isabel is currently teaching at SUNY Fredonia, Buffalo String Works, and spends her summers on faculty at Point CounterPoint in Vermont. She holds degrees from Juilliard (BM and MM) and is also currently completing her doctorate from the University of South Carolina. Her teachers include Joseph Lin, Laurie Smukler, and Ari Streisfeld. In her free time, Isabel can be found poring over a good book.

Originally from Erie, Pennsylvania, **Rebecca Wunch** received her undergraduate degree at Duquesne University where she studied clarinet performance with Ron Samuels, second chair of the Pittsburgh Symphony. At the same time, she studied piano with Sr. Carole Riley, Ph.D. and saxophone with world renowned performer, James Houlik. Subsequently, she received a dual Master's degree from Bowling Green University in Music Theory and Performance, and while attending graduate school had a teaching assistantship in Music Theory/Aural Skills. As a performer, she has played in various venues, such as the Nutcracker with the Toledo Ballet Company, a composer's series at Carnegie Hall, numerous performances with the woodwind trio Reed'm

& Weep, and solo performances with the Mercyhurst Orchestra. As an educator, Rebecca developed the curriculum for the Perseus House Charter School of Excellence Middle School music program, where she previously taught. Currently, as Instructor of Music at Mercyhurst University, she teaches music theory, aural skills, and clarinet and coaches the clarinet choir and saxophone quartet. In addition, she serves as the director of the Sullivan Conservatory of Music at Mercyhurst, which provides private music lessons to children and adults in the Erie area. In addition to Mercyhurst, Rebecca gives private lessons to area music students through the conservatory, plays for the Westminster Presbyterian church services and choir, and performs with the Misery Bay Big Band and Presque Isle Sax Quartet.

Nathan Hess has soloed with the Manassas Symphony Orchestra, Erie Philharmonic, Erie Chamber Orchestra, Western New York Chamber Orchestra, and York Symphony Orchestra, among others. Recent guest recital appearances and masterclasses have included the American Liszt Society Festival; The Americas Society in New York City; College Music Society Northeast Regional Conference; The Second Sunday Recital Series in Binghamton, NY; Bowling Green State University; Duke University; University of Wisconsin Eau Claire; Randolph College; and Duquesne University. Hess holds the Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and the Bachelor of Music degree from James Madison University. For five years Hess chaired the piano program at the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts in Erie, teaching piano to some of the state's most talented pre-college students. He performed in and produced a set of recordings for the textbook *Harmony in Context*, published by McGraw-Hill and written by Miguel Roig-Francoli. In addition to teaching and performing, Dr. Hess is active in Music Teachers National Association and also adjudicates frequently throughout the region and East Coast. Dr. Hess is the Mary A. Spadafor Endowed Chair of Music and Associate Professor of Music in the D'Angelo Department of Music at Mercyhurst University. He coordinates the piano area and the Roche Guest Artist Series. In 2018 he received an award for excellence in faculty scholarship. Each summer he teaches on the piano faculty at Rocky Ridge Music Center in Estes Park, Colorado. He can be heard on the Centaur label in a recording with flutist Susan Royal and in a recording of Bach arias produced by the International Trumpet Guild.

Upcoming Events Spring 2022

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Faculty Recital Series

Katherine Soroka, mezzo-soprano

Rob Frankenberry, tenor and piano

8 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

Thursday, March 24 and Sunday, March 27, 2022**

D'Angelo Opera Theatre: Dido and Aeneas by Henry Purcell

Royce Strider, director and producer

A collaboration of the D'Angelo Opera Theatre, the Mercyhurst Civic Orchestra, the D'Angelo Chamber Choir, and Mercyhurst Dance Dept.

8 p.m. on March 24; 2pm on March 27

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

Monday, April 11, 2022

Roche Guest Artist Series

Maksim Shtrykov, clarinet, and Misuzu Tanaka, piano

8 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Roche Guest Artist Series Masterclass

Maksim Shtrykov, clarinet, and Misuzu Tanaka, piano

12:45 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Faculty Recital Series

Presque Isle Saxophone Quartet

8 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

Saturday, April 23, 2022*

Jazz Ensemble

Dr. Scott Meier, director

7 p.m.

Taylor Little Theatre

Friday, April 29, 2022*

Concert Choir

C. Thomas Brooks, director

7 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

Sunday, May 1, 2022

Composers Concert

Dr. Albert Glinsky, director

2 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

Small Ensembles Concert

7 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 7, 2022*

Wind Ensemble

Dr. Scott Meier, director

7 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

Sunday, May 8, 2022*

Mercyhurst Civic Orchestra

4:30 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

*General admission \$8; Mercyhurst students, faculty, and 12 & under \$5

**Opera: General admission \$15; Seniors and Non-MU Students \$10;

Mercyhurst students, faculty, and 12 & under \$5

For a full list of department performances, visit our Concerts and Events page at www.mercyhurst.edu/music.