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Showcase Faculty Recital

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Showcase Faculty Recital

Authors

Robert Becker, Jacob Braun, Bridget Dolkas, William Fitzpatrick, Grace Fong, Louise Thomas, and Daniel Alfred Wachs

Showcase Faculty Recital
Strings and Piano Faculty
February 28, 2013



spring 2013

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

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Showcase Faculty Recital
Strings and Piano Faculty
February 28, 2013



spring 2013
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SPRING 2013 calendar highlights

february

February 1

University Singers Post-Tour Concert

Stephen Coker, Conductor

February 7

President's Piano Series

Grace Fong & Louise Thomas, duo piano concert

February 14-16, 21-23

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare

Directed by Thomas Bradac

march

March 7

President's Piano Series

Sergei Babayan

March 8

Chapman Chamber Orchestra & University Singers

Daniel Alfred Wachs, Music Director and Conductor

Stephen Coker, Conductor

March 14-16

Concert Intime

Directed by Alicia Guy

april

April 4

President's Piano Series

John Perry

April 4-6, 11-13

Stage Door

by George S. Kaufman & Edna Ferber

Directed by Nina LeNoir

April 19-21

Opera Chapman presents

The Merry Widow by Franz Lehar

Peter Atherton, Artistic Director

Carol Neblett, Associate Director

April 24-27

Student Produced One Acts

may

May 8-11

Spring Dance Concert

Directed by Jennifer Backhaus

May 11

Sholund Scholarship Concert

Daniel Alfred Wachs, Conductor

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Hall-Musco

Conservatory of Music

presents a

Showcase Faculty Recital

featuring

Robert Becker, viola

Jacob Braun, cello

Bridget Dolkas, violin

William Fitzpatrick, violin

Grace Fong, piano

Louise Thomas, piano

Daniel Alfred Wachs, piano



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or email CoPA@chapman.edu

February 28, 2013 ■ 8:00 P.M.

Salmon Recital Hall

Program

Quartet Opus 15 No. 1 in C minor

Gabriel Fauré
(1845-1924)

Allegro molto moderato
Allegro Vivo
Adagio
Allegro Molto

William Fitzpatrick, Violin
Robert Becker, Viola
Jacob Braun, Cello
Daniel A. Wachs, Piano

Sonata for Piano and Viola, Opus 120 No. 1 in F Minor

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Allegro appassionato
Andante un poco Adagio
Allegretto Grazioso
Allegro Amabile

Louise Thomas, Piano
Robert Becker, Viola

Piano Quintet Opus 81 in A major

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Allegro, ma non tanto
Andante con moto
Scherzo
Finale

Bridget Dolkas, Violin
William Fitzpatrick, Violin
Robert Becker, Viola
Jacob Braun, Cello
Grace Fong, Piano

Dedication

The College of Performing Arts would like to thank

Dr. Daniel Temianka and Dr. Zeinab Dabbah '12

for their generous financial support to endow the

Henri Temianka Professorship in Music

and the

Henri Temianka Scholarship in String Studies

About

Henri Temianka, born in 1906, was one of the most important pupils of Carl Flesch and winner of Third Prize in the 1935 Wieniawski Competition (Ginette Neveu and David Oistrakh won First and Second Prizes, respectively). He settled in the U.S. in 1941, when he became concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony under Fritz Reiner. After wartime service as a translator, he became an American citizen. In 1945 he met Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, who invited him to perform the Beethoven Sonatas in the Library of Congress. Later in 1946, he founded the Paganini Quartet, whose name derived from the four Stradivari instruments they played that were once owned by Nicolo Paganini. They performed all over the world for the next twenty years. Temianka turned to conducting in 1960 in California, where he remained until his death in 1992. He published some 100 articles, and his autobiography *Facing the Music* was published in 1973.

Artists

Assistant Professor **Robert Becker** was appointed to the position of Director of String Studies at Chapman University in 2006. In March of 2012, he was invited by the American String Teacher's Association to present a lecture at its national convention in Atlanta, GA on "*Preparing Your Young Violist for Pain-Free Playing and Limitless Musical Options.*" Serving as a string adjudicator for both ASTA competitions on the west coast and VOCE competitions, he is highly sought after as a judge and workshop presenter at all levels of string playing. Also presiding over two conference presentations at the ASTA convention in 2011, his national and international recognition as a viola pedagogue continues his life-long commitment to young talented string players.

Continuing his service in 2012 as Principal Viola of the Pacific Symphony under the baton of maestro Carl St. Clair, he has been heard as the solo violist for all visiting ballets at the Segerstrom Performing Arts Center as he has been every season since 1982. Those internationally known companies include ABT, the Cuba ballet, Danish ballet and others. As Principal Viola he has appeared on stage over the last season with Pinchas Zukerman, Lang Lang, and participated in the recording of new works by Phillip Glass and William Bolcom with the PSO. Also in his capacity as Principal, he has served as chairman of the audition panel for viola auditions. Professor Becker also serves as a musician representative to the Board of Directors of the Pacific Symphony.

As chamber music soloist he is a featured performer on the "Café Ludwig" series at the Samueli Concert Hall with guest artist Orli Shaham. Repertoire this season included the Dvorak "*Piano Quintet in A Major*", Tchaikovsky "*Souvenir de Florence*," Martinu "*Madrigals*," Bruch "*Trio for Clarinet and Piano*" among others.

Voted "Artist of the Year" by Arts Orange County for the year 2010, he is honored to continue his involvement with the talented and diverse community here.

Mr. Becker can also be heard on more than 400 film scores, numerous television productions and diverse recordings in all musical genres.

Hosting workshops on orchestral techniques for both the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra, he also participated as a master class presenter for the PSYO and at the Las Vegas Academy of the Performing Arts in 2012. Invited in 2011 by the Southern California Band and Orchestra Association Teachers Association conference to present a lecture and paper on "DeMystifying the Viola," follow-up presentations in local schools will continue throughout the upcoming academic year.

For the last ten years, the Viola Workout was once again sponsored and coordinated in Crested Butte, Co in June of 2012 by Robert Becker. This workshop was started to focus on string pedagogy and chamber music primarily for Chapman students to integrate teaching emphasis, outdoor experiences, fly-fishing, practice regimens, and to introduce string students to the college experience via master classes and performances (see [The Viola Workout.com](http://TheViolaWorkout.com) for further info).

Jacob Braun serves on the faculty of Chapman University's Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music in Orange, CA and The University of California, Santa Barbara. A native of the Boston area, Mr. Braun enjoys a multi-faceted career as a solo cellist, chamber musician and professor. Mr. Braun is a frequent guest for numerous festivals, including the Amsterdam Bienale Cello Congress, La Jolla Summerfest, Cleveland Chamberfest, The Innsbrook Institute and The Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society. The 2013 season kicks off with concerts at The Colburn School, Saddleback College, The University of California, Santa Barbara Music Affiliates, Chapman University and a concert tour with ECCO, (East Coast Chamber Orchestra). For upcoming schedule and concert information, see JacobBraunCello.com

Bridget Dolkas, first violinist and founding member of the California Quartet, is a sought-after chamber musician and has had the fortune to perform alongside such wonderful musicians as Mark O'Connor, Orli Shaham, Peter Sprague, and Paul Katz. For eight years with the California Quartet, Ms. Dolkas has performed in Europe and the United States to great acclaim, and has been performing world-wide since the age of ten. She is the Principal Second Violinist of the Pacific Symphony, where she also performs on the orchestra's chamber music series, Café Ludwig. Most recently, she performed as soloist and concertmaster with the South Coast Chamber Music Society's chamber orchestra. In addition, she performed for eight years in the San Diego Symphony and the San Diego Opera Orchestra. She has won numerous competitions and honors including First Place in the La Jolla Symphony Young Artist and the Meadowmount Concerto Competitions, scholarships to colleges and festivals, and the USC award for Chamber Musician of the Year.

Studying chamber music under such masters as Joseph Silverstein, Kim Kashkashian, Fred Sherry, Toby Appel, as well as the Juilliard and Miro Quartets, has made a tremendous musical impact on Ms. Dolkas. As a student of Alice Schoenfeld, she earned her BM degree at the University of Southern California, continuing her studies with Isaac Malkin and completing an MM degree from the Manhattan School of Music. She is near completion of a DMA degree from UCLA, where she studied with Mark Kaplan. Ms. Dolkas performs on a cherished 1798 Lupot violin.

From Founder and First Violinist of the New York String Quartet, to Director of Chamber Music at the American Conservatory in Fontainebleau, France, **William Fitzpatrick** has taught many of today's leading violinists and chamber musicians. He is a graduate of the Juilliard School, where he studied with Ms. Dorothy Delay and was an assistant to both Robert Mann and Claus Adam of the Juilliard String Quartet. Prior to his studies at the Juilliard School, he was a student of Stephen Clapp at the Blair School of Music in Nashville, Tennessee. Recently appointed Instructor of Violin at the Chapman Conservatory in Orange, California, Mr. Fitzpatrick's students have been accepted to the Juilliard School, the Cleveland Institute of Music, the San Francisco Conservatory, the

Artists

Indiana School of Music, the Mannes School, the Paris Conservatory, the Aspen Music Festival, Meadowmount, the Sewanee Summer Music Center and have received undergraduate and post graduate degrees from schools such as the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, the Bienen School at Northwestern University, the Blair School of Music and The Eastman School of Music.

Mr. Fitzpatrick's musical experiences throughout Europe, Japan and the United States, have led him to positions such as Conductor of the Nashville Chamber and Symphony Orchestras to Founder and Conductor of "L'Ensemble des Deux Mondes" in France and collaborations with orchestras such as "l'Orchestre Symphonique de France" and as soloist with The American Symphony Orchestra in New York. He has performed and recorded with artists such as Gaby Casadesus, Elliot Fisk, Claude Frank, Itzhak Perlman, Emmanuel Ax, Ron Leonard, Patrice Fontanarosa, Karl Leister and the French actor Richard Bohringer (in the stage production "Coetse"). Mr. Fitzpatrick's premiere performance of Albert Glinsky's "Rhapsody" for Violin solo and Orchestra, which was choreographed by Leslie-Jane Pessemier in a work called "Flights" for the Joffrey II ballet company, gave more than 100 performances all across the U.S., and Hong Kong. He has recorded for Jubal, CRI, Sine Qua Non and Delos record labels, as well as for the BBC, FR2, and other cable and network stations throughout the US and France.

Mr Fitzpatrick is Founder and CEO of MusiShare Inc. and Director of the MusiShare Young Artist Program in Irvine California, which provides Performance classes, Showcase concerts and Master Classes with reknowned professors such as Paul Kantor, Stephen Clapp, Cho Liang Lin, Cornelia Heard and other. His books (In Search Of: A Guide to Violin Excellence, Melodies for the Young Violinist / Violist, Rhythms for the Young Violinist / Violist, An American Songbook for violinists and Chansons pour les Jeunes Violinistes) are published through MusiShare Inc., as well as his online program MSLC which uses short videos and online data based testing to teach the basics of music.

Grace Fong is currently the Director of Keyboard Studies at Chapman University Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music where she was awarded the Valerie Scudder faculty excellence award at the Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music. Praised as "positively magical," an artist of "rare eloquence and grace," American pianist Grace Fong enjoys a career as an international concerto soloist, recitalist, chamber musician and teacher. She has gained critical acclaim in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia, making appearances at major venues around the world, including Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, Severance Hall in Cleveland, Ohio, Phillips Collection, Disney Hall, Hollywood Bowl, Great Hall in Leeds, UK, the Liszt Academy in Budapest, Konzerthaus Dortmund, Germany, among others.

Radio/television broadcasts have included British Broadcasting Company, WCLV-FM 104.9, KUSC 91.5 FM in Los Angeles, the "Emerging Young Artists" series in New York,

and "Performance Today" on National Public Radio. Performances with orchestras have included the Halle Orchestra in the United Kingdom, the Polish Chamber Orchestra, the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony, Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra, Music Academy of the West Festival Orchestra, the Olympia Philharmonic Orchestra, The Shreveport Symphony, the Chamber Orchestra of Southwest Virginia, the New Hampshire Music Festival Orchestra, among others.

Described by one critic as "absolutely astounding-and now I've run out of praiseworthy adjectives," Dr. Fong is a prizewinner of numerous international competitions, including the prestigious Leeds International Piano Competition in the United Kingdom, Bosendorfer International Piano Competition, San Antonio International Piano Competition, Viardo International Piano Competition, and the Cleveland International Piano Competition. Dr. Fong is also the first female winner in twelve years of one of America's most prestigious piano awards, the Christel De Haan Classical Fellowship of the American Pianists Association. Previously, Dr. Fong has won the Grand Prize in piano from the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts and was thereafter named a "Presidential Scholar in the Arts", and was presented a medallion by former President Clinton at the White House. Other prizes include Gold Medalist for the Wideman International Piano Competition, the winner of the Music Academy of the West Concerto Competition, the winner of the Cleveland Institute of Music Concerto Competition, 1st Prize in the Los Angeles Liszt Competition, 1st Prize in the Edith Knox Performance Competition.

Dr. Fong is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music where she studied with Sergei Babayan who describes Dr. Fong as "not only a true artist and an exciting virtuoso, but a sensitive poet who can speak about the most important of subjects through the craft of her hands." During the course of her undergraduate studies at the University of Southern California, Dr. Fong completed a double major and minor; she was awarded the prestigious Renaissance Scholar Prize, and was named "The USC Thornton School of Music Keyboard Department's - Most Outstanding Student - B.M." Former teachers include Sergei Babayan, John Perry, Louise Lepley, Paulina Drake, and Norberto Cappone.

Dr. Fong is also faculty at Claremont Graduate University, teaching and advising Doctoral Candidates of Piano Performance. An enthusiastic supporter of the education of young musicians, Dr. Fong has served as guest artist and teacher at the Innsbrook Summer Festival, the New Hampshire Music Festival, the Salt Spring Piano Festival, the Montecito Summer Festival, the Sitka Chamber Music Festival, the Missouri River Arts Festival, and the Schlern International Music Festival faculty. For more information, please visit: www.pianistgracefong.com

Artists

Pianist **Louise Thomas** has concertized extensively throughout Europe, North America and Asia at such concert venues as the Tchaikovsky Conservatoire in Moscow, the Franz Liszt Academy Museum in Budapest, the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing, Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles and Weill Hall in New York City.

Louise Thomas was born in Ireland and completed undergraduate musicology studies at Trinity College, Dublin. She accepted a German Government scholarship to complete solo piano performance studies at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Hannover, Germany. Dr. Thomas won second prize at the Ibla-Ragusa competition in Sicily where she was awarded the Béla Bartók Prize. She also won the concerto competition at the University of Southern California and performed with the late Maestro Sergiu Comissiona. Dr. Thomas received her doctorate in piano performance in 1999 from USC where she studied with John Perry and Alan Smith.

A dynamic collaborative pianist, Louise Thomas has made CD recordings in Germany (as part of the chamber music festival, “Schwetzinger Festspielen”); at the Banff Center for the Arts in Canada with the Irish Contemporary Music group, Nua Nós, and has appeared on numerous live radio broadcasts for Irish Radio, BBC Radio Northern Ireland, Moscow radio, K-USC and K-MZT in Los Angeles. She has also played live and recorded for RTE (Irish National Television) and the nationally distributed Ovation Arts Channel in Los Angeles. Her recordings are available at iTunes.com and on the Centaur label. A recording of her performance of the Ravel G Major was released on K-USC’s “Musical Moments” CD. Further recordings of both 18th-century and contemporary compositions are scheduled for release in 2013 on the Piano Classics Online label.

Pursuing her passion for innovative programming and contemporary music, she produced and performed a program in 2007 featuring “California Composers Today” at Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall. She concertizes extensively with violinist, Elizabeth Pitcairn, who performs on the legendary “Red Mendelssohn” Stradivarius.

Louise Thomas was a faculty member at the University of California, Santa Barbara and has been invited onto the faculty of several summer programs. She was the vocal coach at the 2002 “La Fabbrica” summer program in Tuscany, and from 2003-2009, she was the Festival pianist and vocal/instrumental coach at the Idyllwild Arts Summer Academy in California.

In the summer of 2011, she joined the faculty at the Luzerne International Music festival in New York State and returned as Chair of the Piano program (first session) in 2012.

Dr. Thomas joined the Chapman University in 2001 as Director of Keyboard Collaborative Arts. She is married to composer, John Bisharat and resides in Los Angeles.

Conductor **Daniel Alfred Wachs** emerged on the international scene following his debut with the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg, leading a world première by Toshio Hosokawa at the Grosses Festspielhaus. The Austrian press praised “*Engaging, rhythmically inspired, precise in its execution, the “Mambo” was equal to a performance by Gustavo Dudamel and the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra!*” Wachs has been entrusted with preparing orchestras from Valery Gergiev to Vladimir Spivakov, and has served as Assistant Conductor to Osmo Vänskä at the Minnesota Orchestra and at the National Orchestra of France under Kurt Masur. He has served as cover conductor for the Houston Symphony and the Rotterdam Philharmonic.

Wachs has guest conducted Orange County’s Pacific Symphony, the Auckland Philharmonia, the National Orchestra (as part of the National Conducting Institute), the Sarasota Orchestra, the Fort Worth Symphony, Sinfonia Gulf Coast, the Monterey Symphony, the Spartanburg Philharmonic, and is a frequent guest conductor at New York City Ballet at Lincoln Center. Wachs has also served as assistant conductor at the Cincinnati Opera and for the French première of Bernstein’s *Candide* at the Théâtre du Châtelet, a co-production with La Scala and the English National Opera, directed by Robert Carsen.

A pianist as well as a conductor, Wachs was auditioned by Zubin Mehta at the age of eight and was a student of the late Enrique Barenboim. He subsequently pursued studies at the Zürich Academy as well as The Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School. He has participated at such festivals at Aspen, Tanglewood and Verbier.

Committed to the cause of education, Wachs is one of the few conductors of his generation successfully balancing the busy demands of an academic and professional career. He leads the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra and is Music Director of the Chapman Chamber Orchestra. Both orchestras were finalists for the 2012 American Prize in Orchestral Performance and OCYSO is the 2012 winner in the youth category. Wachs and the Chapman Chamber Orchestra recently completed a survey of Mahler song cycles with baritone Vladimir Chernov and have initiated a partnership with the LA Opera Domingo-Thornton Young Artist Program. Wachs’ expertise and experience in developing and infusing new life into education concerts has been sought by such orchestras as the Monterey and Palm Beach Symphonies.

An accomplished opera conductor and collaborator, Wachs has led *Albert Herring*, *Così fan tutte*, *The Impresario*, *Suor Angelica*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Amahl* and *the Night Visitors*, acts from *La Traviata* and *Die Fledermaus* and operas by Pasatieri which were lauded by the composer himself. He has accompanied tenor William Burden in recital and recently made his debut on the LA Philharmonic Chamber Music Series at Walt Disney Concert Hall. For more information, please visit www.danielalfredwachs.com

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