

2017

Concert recording 2017-04-23a

Ismaelena Serrano

Yoko Fukuda

Daryl Rojas

Nicholas Liebl

Tomoko Kashiwagi

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Performer(s)

Ismaelena Serrano, Yoko Fukuda, Daryl Rojas, Nicholas Liebl, Tomoko Kashiwagi, Ammi Lopez, Carly Sigurdson, Mycah Kettner, and Zachariah Davis



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT
College of Arts & Sciences

UA
Music

2017 Honors Recital

April 23, 2017 | 3:00 PM
Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall

Concert Program

Sognai Francesco Schira (1809–1883)
Rêverie

Ismaelena Serrano, *soprano*
Yoko Fukuda, *piano*

Étude-Tableau Op. 39, No. 5 Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943)
Daryl Rojas, *piano*

Capriccio Rodney Newton (b. 1945)
Nicholas Liebl, *tuba*
Dr. Tomoko Kashiwagi, *piano*

Solo de pajarillo Omar Acosta (b. 1964)
Solo of the Little Bird
Ammi Lopez, *flute*

Butterflies and Bobcats David L. McIntyre (b. 1950)
Carly Sigurdson, *piano*

Song to the Mother Johannes Möller (b. 1981)
Mycah Kettner, *guitar*

Concerto for Bass Trombone Chris Brubeck (b. 1952)
III. James Brown in the Twilight Zone
Zachariah Davis, *bass trombone*
Dr. Tomoko Kashiwagi, *piano*



Competition Winners

Soprano, **Ismaelena Serrano** is a first-year graduate Vocal Performance student and a Graduate Assistant for the Vocal Area here at the University of Arkansas. She grew up in southern California and received a B.A. in Music from Florida College in Tampa, Florida. During her undergraduate studies, she placed 1st in her division in the National Association of Teachers and Singers' vocal competition three years in a row. She held NAfME officer positions from 2008–2011 and was granted the annual departmental award for Vocalist of the Year in 2009 and Chorus Member of the Year in 2010. Ms. Serrano had the privilege of shadowing her voice teacher and choral director, Dr. Jon Bassett for two consecutive years. This included hands on experience rehearsing ensembles, conducting ensembles in concert, and administrative experience in repertoire selection and tour planning. After completion of her studies at Florida College, she began teaching private voice and piano lessons in Dallas, Texas and built a studio of 50 students. During that time, she was honored to work with Eric Whitacre and The Eric Whitacre Singers and perform with them at Lincoln Center in New York City in March of 2014.

Since coming to the University of Arkansas, Ms. Serrano has enjoyed being a part of the Schola Cantorum and playing the role of Pamina in the spring production of Mozart's opera, *The Magic Flute*. She placed 2nd in her division at the state level in this year's National Association of Teachers and Singers' vocal competition, and 3rd place at the region level. She is grateful to be studying with Dr. Moon-Sook Park and looks forward to another year of study at the University of Arkansas.

A native of Costa Rica, **Daryl Rojas** has performed internationally in Nicaragua, Colombia, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United States. After graduating from the University of Costa Rica, he pursued further studies at the John N Corpas University, the Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt in Weimar, and has been an active participant in many summer academies where he coached with many renowned concert pianists. Since 2014 Daryl has been a graduate student of Professor Jura Margulis at the University of Arkansas where he obtained his Master of Music in Piano Performance. Currently he is in the final stage of completing a Post Graduate Performer Diploma and also teaches at the Community Music School. His teachers include Sara Feterman, Dr. Aleksandr Skliutovsky, and Pilar Leyva. Daryl is a passionate musician and a piano teacher.

Nicholas Liebl is a Graduate Assistant for Dr. Benjamin Pierce's tuba and euphonium studio, teaching between 8-12 undergraduates each semester. Originally from Minnesota, Nicholas completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. He is hoping to perform in a Navy Fleet Band once he graduates from the University of Arkansas.

Flutist **Ammi Lopez**, a native of Mexico, made her debut as a soloist with Penn State Woodwind Symphonic Ensemble at Pennsylvania State University. She has played in prestigious halls such as Alice Tully Hall in NYC and Kimmel Center in Philadelphia with the Penn State Woodwind Ensemble and the Penn State Philharmonic Orchestra. As a versatile performer, she plays Latin American music with the Latin American Music Ensemble at University of Arkansas and is a current member of the University Symphony Orchestra.

As a Teaching Artist, Ms. Lopez participated in the Introductory Lab at Lincoln Center Education to expand her skills, curiosities, and experiences as an educator. She served as a teaching assistant at the Teaching Artist Program at Longy School of Music and taught flute lessons at the Upper St. School in Cambridge, MA. In the past summer, she coached woodwind ensembles for the Summer Academy program at Longy School of Music and worked as a chaperone and flute player in the National Take a Stand Orchestra as an outreach music program with students from inner cities across the U.S. in collaboration with members from the LA Philharmonic Orchestra.

Ammi Lopez has had the privilege to be coached by flute instructors such as Dr. Naomi Seidman, Marco Granados, and Dr. Ronda Mains, her current flute Professor at University of Arkansas where she is pursuing a Master's Degree while working as a teaching assistant. In addition to her preparation, Ms. Lopez has attended master classes with international soloists such as Marina Piccinini, Leone Buyse, Bonita Boyd, Lorna McGhee and Susan Milan. Ms. Lopez has been the recipient of the Ted Twohig Memorial Flute scholarship, the Pennsylvania and the Carmen C. Fenza Memorial scholarship at Pennsylvania State University.

Carly Sigurdson was born and raised in Vancouver, Canada where she began taking piano lessons at the age of 7. She has performed across Canada and the United States, as well as in Germany, Poland, and Spain. She received her Bachelor of Music at the University of Victoria, and a Master of Music from Texas Tech University. Carly currently attends the University of Arkansas where she is pursuing a Post Graduate Performance Diploma under Professor Jura Margulis. Her principal teachers include Dr. Jamie Syer, Dr. William Westney, and Dr. Raul Velasco. Carly is also very

passionate about teaching and has taught piano, theory, and history under the Royal Conservatory of Music program for over 14 years.

Mycah Kettner is from Fayetteville, Arkansas. She is pursuing a B.A. in Music with an emphasis in Classical Guitar and Violin. During her first two years, she studied classical guitar at the university with Dr. James Greeson prior to his retirement in May 2015. She currently studies guitar at the university with Jake Hertzog and violin with Paulo Eskitch. She also studied violin with Dr. Er-Gene Kahng. She began taking lessons at an early age for both violin and guitar at the Suzuki Music School of Arkansas where she studied classical guitar with William Reyes for over ten years.

Mycah is a classical guitar instructor at the Suzuki Music School of Arkansas. In addition to teaching private lessons since August 2014, she also leads the guitar ensemble and acts as the guitar instructor for the Instrumental Explorers Program. Mycah also teaches guitar and 'ukulele at the U of A Community Music School.

Zachariah Davis is a Masters of Music student in Trombone Performance and also serves as the Teaching Assistant at the University of Arkansas. His primary teachers include Dr. Cory Mixdorf, Professor James T. Decker, Dr. Christopher J. Smith, and Dr. Dominick Castadonte.

Prior to his enrollment at the University of Arkansas, Davis graduated with a degree in Music Education from Texas Tech University. Davis has performed professionally with the Arkansas Philharmonic Orchestra, Opera Fayetteville, Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorus, Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, Lubbock Moonlight Musicals, and the Roswell Symphony Orchestra.

After graduating from the University of Arkansas Davis will be beginning his doctoral study at the University of North Texas while serving as a Teaching Fellow for the trombone studio.

***Congratulations to the winners of the
2017 Honors Recital Competition!***