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CU Boulder is a **SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS**.

The University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado's flagship university, honors and recognizes the many contributions of Indigenous peoples in our state. CU Boulder acknowledges that it is located on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute and many other Native American nations. Their forced removal from these territories has caused devastating and lasting impacts. While the University of Colorado Boulder can never undo or rectify the devastation wrought on Indigenous peoples, we commit to improving and enhancing engagement with Indigenous peoples and issues locally and globally.

Faculty Tuesdays

A Flamenco-Jazz Swan Song

Doug Walter, marimba, vibraphone and compositions Brian Casey, jazz bass Steve Mullins, guitar and compositions Victor Mestas Pérez, piano Carl Dixon, hand percussion and vibraphone

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025 Grusin Music Hall

PROGRAM

Feliz

Carmen Sandim

Laura

David Raksin

Wave

Antonio Carlos Jobim Brian Casey, bass

La Obscuridad Distancia

Steve Mullins

Gratitude

Steve Mullins

The Possibility of Orchids

Steve Mullins Steve Mullins, guitar Carl Dixon, percussion

Intermission

EmilyJohnny Mercer

Peri's Scope Bill Evans

Dans un tel silence Doug Walter

Triste
Antonio Carlos Jobim

Ypres Doug Walter

Polka-Schmolka, the Sherry-Kariolka Doug Walter The Band

PROGRAM NOTES

After more than 50 CU Faculty Recitals and hundreds elsewhere, Douglas Wm. Walter retires from CU Boulder in summer 2025. When he came to CU Boulder in 1990—before it had a separate jazz department—he and others were hired for their expertise in both classical and jazz musics: Tom Myer, Terry Sawchuk, Paul Erhard and Greg Dyes. Part of their workload was to rehearse weekly and perform as jazz musicians as the CU Boulder Faculty Jazz Quintet. This group disbanded when the CU Boulder Jazz Department was created (later the Thompson Jazz Studies Program). Since the others have retired, Doug has the last of these hybrid positions—for which he is truly grateful.

Doug also came to CU Boulder because of the research integrated into the position, developing his innovative two-mallet grip, and doing movement research that led to his unique marimba etude book for left hand improvement, NO LEFT HAND BEHIND.

In 2009, he discovered Steve Mullins' music and received a gift of immense challenge, pleasure and growth. Steve wrote flamenco-fusion duets for himself and his brother Brian, also a guitarist, that adapt well to the new guitar-marimba duo format. This led to many collaborations, a European tour and improvisations in flamenco style on marimba—a true musical rarity!

Although he has lined up residencies teaching elsewhere for more teaching kicks and he'll continue playing timpani for the Boulder Philharmonic and other orchestras, Doug will miss deeply the camaraderie of colleagues, the laughter of CU Boulder students and the joy of performing music onstage in Grusin as he welcomed audiences to his personal musical world.

Feliz, Laura and Wave are performed tonight using the two-mallet Walter Grip, the result of decades of research and experimentation, finally presented in a 2020 Percussive Arts Society Journal article. Although counterintuitive, holding the mallet without the thumb actually frees wrist motion, increases accuracy and lets the marimba bars ring longer. Try it!

This performance of *Laura* is affectionately dedicated to Doug's charming niece, Laura Rebecca Walter.

Steve Mullins' notes on his flamenco works: *La Oscuridad Distancia* ("The Distant Dark") is a musical prayer for beauty and light in the face of loss, styled loosely in the flamenco genre of *tarantos*.

Gratitude is based on the flamenco style of guajira, inspired by Cuban music. It celebrates the "great antidote" to life's ills.

The Possibility of Orchids is more or less in the flamenco style of solea por bulerias, but in the unusual modality normally associated with tarantos. The title celebrates the notion that inspiration and creativity are always available (like blossoms) if we provide "the vase."

Emily is the jazz waltz-theme song from the Julie Andrews movie, *The Americanization of Emily*.

Peri's Scope was written in honor of Bill Evans' girlfriend in 1959, Peri Cousins.

"In Such a Silence as I Know" is a line from the ee cummings' love sonnet Doug quoted to his wife Barbara on their first date in 1978. His translation is *Dans un tel silence*.

Ypres is a mysterious ballad, written in awe of the sacrifice of British soldiers during WWI battles near this small city.

Polka-Schmolka, the Sherry Kariolka is written in honor of two percussive pals, Sherry Rubins and Kari Klier.

Enjoy! E.U.O.U.A.E.

PERSONNEL

<u>Doug Walter</u>, marimba, vibraphone and compositions <u>Steve Mullins</u>, guitar and compositions <u>Victor Mestas Pérez</u>, piano <u>Carl Dixon</u>, hand percussion and vibraphone

Brian Casey, jazz bass

Brian Casey is a jazz bassist, educator and researcher based in Colorado. Casey serves as assistant professor of academic jazz at the University of Northern Colorado and earned a DMA in jazz studies from the University of Colorado Boulder where he taught courses in humanities, jazz studies and American music. Prior to moving to Colorado, Casey earned an MM in jazz studies from the University of North Texas where he played with the Grammy-nominated One O'Clock Lab Band and served as a teaching fellow in jazz bass under the direction of Professor Lynn Seaton. Originally from the Pacific Northwest, Casey has performed and/or recorded with Eric Skye, Pink Martini, Weber lago, Henry Butler, Anson Wright, Robert Johnson, Lillian Boutté and many others.

Casey has presented original research in jazz-related fields at many national and international conferences including those of the College Music Society, the Jazz Education Network and the International Society of Bassists. He has recently published the entry for Miles Davis in the Oxford Online Bibliographies in Music, and a chapter on post-war traditions in Jerry Tolson's textbook *African American Music: History and Heritage* published by Great River Learning. Casey's research interests also include the intersection of jazz and American literature, politics, society and the role of jazz in the civil rights struggle in America, as well as jazz as a cultural phenomenon in New Orleans.

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