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2020-21 Season
Digital program



College of Music
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and discovery, together.*

2020-21 Digital Programs

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New director takes reins of **Pendulum New Music**

By Olivia Lerwick

Creating room for the unknown, inviting people into places they never thought they could go, using music as a way to create new possibilities for all. These things are imperative for music, especially classical music, to survive. They also happen to be things that Annika Socolofsky, the College of Music's newest composition faculty member, does very well.

An avant-folk vocalist and distinguished composer, Socolofsky has composed and performed with ensembles such as Eighth Blackbird, the Knoxville Symphony, the Mizzou New Music Ensemble and the Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble. She looks forward to bringing what she has learned in these collaborations to her students as the director of pendulum new music.

Socolofsky is also occupied by current events and the needs of her community, and she is constantly looking for ways to strengthen and enrich her students. She remarks that “...[she is] excited to play a part in helping Pendulum grow in a way that expands its support for students of all musical backgrounds on campus.”

Socolofsky’s music draws from many genres and often seeks to re-imagine old traditions in a new light. She loves collaborating with musicians on her projects, giving them creative license with what’s written, as she believes that a piece is reimagined every time it’s performed. Each piece balances the tension between her ideas, the musician’s interpretations, and the desires of whomever requested the work.

“Even if a piece is commissioned, like most of mine now are, I still need to find a way to make it my own,” Socolofsky says. “Physical activities like walking, running and especially singing help me to think through what purpose I want for the piece within the parameters of the project.”

Although her voice is perhaps her main instrument, Socolofsky plays the fiddle, accordion and hardanger d’amore (a scandinavian fiddle with 10 strings). She also played the violin in her high school orchestra, and it was in high school that she was first exposed to the idea of composing. As their final project, her orchestra director, Mr. Greene, asked that all of the seniors either play a concerto, conduct a piece, or write a piece for orchestra.

“I had never even thought about composing as being a possibility for me,” Socolofsky remembers. “That opportunity inspired me to apply for composition in my undergrad and eventually make it my vocation. It’s also a big part of why I want to teach, so that I can mentor students in the way that Mr. Greene mentored me.”

[Click here to read more about Annika Socolofsky.](#)

Faculty Tuesdays

Postcards from Home

Christina Jennings, flutes

Matthew Dane, violas

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020

Lament for Frankie

Solas*

Goldberg Variations, BWV 988: No. 7

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

Elegy

Dianna Link (b. 1999)

Goldberg Variations, BWV 988: No. 16

Johann Sebastian Bach*

Goldberg Variations, BWV 988: No. 20

Johann Sebastian Bach*

America

Traditional*

Duo in B-flat, K. 424

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1783)*

Andante cantabile

Andante con Variazioni

—Intermission— *(Program continues on next page)*

Entanglement (Premiere)

Jonah Sirota (b. 1976)

Wind Whisper (Premiere)

Dianna Link

Archibald of Keppich/Black is the Color/ Leaving Brittany/Celtic Dance

Traditional*

**arr./trans. Jennings and Dane*

Program notes

Flutist **Christina Jennings** and violist **Matthew Dane** share music created and arranged during the pandemic. While home in Boulder this summer, they began Friday evening porch concerts for their Frasier Meadows neighbors and found the experience one of their most hopeful and energizing activities.

Tonight's program draws from the heart of this music including their own transcriptions of masterworks by Mozart and J.S. Bach; arrangements of Celtic traditional and new tunes; and premieres by

young composers. *Entanglement* by Jonah Sirota culminates in a mesmerizing groove, while *Wind Whisper* by Dianna Link features eerie harmonics and spacious ethereal writing. Both pieces are written for flute and the 14-stringed baroque instrument viola d'amore, and this evening will be the official premiere for each.

A second piece by CU composition student Dianna Link was written earlier this summer for a service of reconciliation at St. John's Episcopal in Boulder honoring the memory of George Floyd. Overall, much of this program's music is mournful and slow, exploring the darker spaces many of us find ourselves during these times. But in every piece there is also tremendous hope and purely sublime moments; this music sings to us the songs of this time, a sense of our collective possibility and yearning and also the isolation and sadness in the atmosphere.

Jennings and Dane have been playing music together for over twenty years. At Bowdoin Music Festival they founded the Harpswell Trio with harpist June Han, and in Colorado played extensively with guitarist Jonathan Leathwood in the Lefthand

Canyon Trio. They have premiered works written for them by Daniel Kellogg, Geoffrey Hudson and Ricardo Iznaola.

Personnel

CU Boulder College of Music faculty

Click on a name to view a performer's biography.

Christina Jennings, flute

Guest performers

Click on a name to view a performer's biography.

Matthew Dane, viola

Composers

Click on a name to view a composer's biography.

Dianna Link

Jonah Sirota

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