

nu Ensemble

Karen Ní Bhroin and Mark A. Norman, directors
Tim Heath, guest conductor

Watson Chamber Music Hall
Sunday, February 20, 2022 • 2 p.m.

Presented by

UNC School of the Arts

Brian Cole, Chancellor

School of Music

Saxton Rose, Dean



uncsa.edu/performances

nu Ensemble

Rhythm Song (1982/2021).....Paul Smadbeck
(b. 1955)
arr. Danté Thomas

*Danté Thomas and Sebastiaan de Waart, marimba
Ben Burson, Michael Cornwell and Garrett Strauss, percussion*

from Momentum for Chamber Orchestra (2021) Michael S. Rothkopf
(world premiere) (b. 1955)

Largo—Adagietto (*A body at rest...A body in motion...*)

Mark A. Norman, conductor

Jaron Deming, flute; Evan LaVack, oboe; Casey McGuire, clarinet

Johammee Romero, trumpet

Ellie Dixon, violin; Laurence Brooke, viola; Zane Hollomon, double bass

Danté Thomas, vibraphone

Moh Reh, guitar

Josephine Wen, piano

Overflow (2020)Anna Clyne
(b. 1980)

Karen Ní Bhroin, conductor

Sydney Horner and Isabel Aviles, flute

Maggie Williams and Kaylin McClafferty, oboe

Clara Ruiz Medina and Trent Smart, clarinet

Tristen Craven and Brianna Cantwell, bassoon

Elijah Barclift and Myles Moore, horn

Sunset Ave. (2022) (world premiere).....Peter Noll
(b. 1999)

Tim Heath, guest conductor

Kayla Cieslak, flute; Casey McGuire, clarinet

Logan Fischer, horn

Ellie Dixon, violin; Laurence Brooke, viola; Sam Tripp, cello

Zane Hollomon, electric bass

Danté Thomas and Ben Burson, marimbas

BIOGRAPHIES

MICHAEL S. ROTHKOPF is a composer of over 50 works of chamber, electronic, orchestral and vocal music. His compositions have been noted for their “remarkable sensuousness” and their evocative ability to create a “sense of time and occasion.” He has focused on creating interactive music involving digital technology and artificial intelligence as part of the compositional design.

He grew up in Colorado inspired by the abstract beauty of the terrain, colors, climate, sounds and wonder of the West. It is this experience that continues to influence his creative process today. Much of his music focuses on melodic line, counterpoint, color and clarity of form.

Published by American Composers Editions, Rothkopf’s music has been performed throughout the United States by notable musicians and ensembles such as Tara Helen O’Connor, William Anderson, Jean Kopperud, Aleck Karis, Meerennai Shim, Cygnus Ensemble and the National Orchestra Association. He has been awarded fellowships from Carnegie Hall, the National Orchestra Association, Columbia University and Yaddo.

Rothkopf was awarded the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) Excellence in Teaching award in 2017. From 2008 to 2010, he served as the interim dean of the UNCSA School of Music. In addition, from 1991 to 2013, he served as assistant dean of music and graduate programs.

From 2005 to 2008, Rothkopf was president of the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in Burlington, Vermont. He was a founding member and senior editor both for the Journal for Online Teaching and Learning (JOLT) and for MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resources for Online Teaching), spanning 2000 to 2013.

Rothkopf received his master and doctor of music degrees from Columbia University. His principal composition teachers have been Normand Lockwood and Mario Davidovsky. His formal studies also include composition with Jack Beeson, Susan Blaustein, George Edwards and Chou Wen-Chung; counterpoint and analysis with Jacques-Louis Monod; musicology with Ian Bent; and contrabass with Harry Safstrom.

PETER NOLL is a composer whose music explores the combination of minimalism, modernism and impressionism. His music is immersed in the ideas of philosophy and the natural world. Noll follows the concept of “what?” and “how?” in search of “why?” What is the sound that needs to be explored, and how can that sound be achieved? These questions give Noll the challenge of the “why?” in his music. He writes for all combinations of instruments and voices, from acoustic to electric and solo to large symphonic settings. As a composer, Noll strives to learn and grow as much as possible through the creation of new music.

Noll began his music journey as a saxophonist, completing his undergraduate study in music performance at Florida Gulf Coast University. He is currently pursuing a Master of Music in composition at UNCSA, studying with Lawrence Dillon and serving as a teaching assistant for the composition studio at UNCSA.

MARK A. NORMAN is has enjoyed a career spanning over thirty years as a conductor and tuba performer. He is the music director of the Piedmont Wind Symphony and the Director of Wind Ensembles and a conducting faculty artist at UNCSA.

Raised and currently residing in North Carolina, Norman has lived and worked throughout the United States and guest conducted internationally. He is the former music director of the American Wind Orchestra and the Riverside Wind Symphony, and he has been on the conducting faculties of the University of Michigan, UW-Milwaukee, UNC at Greensboro (UNCG), Washburn University and Towson University. He has recorded with the Fountain City Brass Band, American Wind Orchestra and UNCG Wind Ensemble. In a recent project he produced a three-part video series titled “Beethoven and the Winds” with the Piedmont Wind Symphony. He is the former tuba instrumentalist with the esteemed U.S. Navy Band in Washington, DC, and he was the principal tuba with the Georgetown Symphony, McLean Orchestra and the Mount Vernon Chamber Symphony, receiving critical acclaim with all of them as a featured soloist.

Norman has been featured on radio programs including NPR Kansas, as well as on local and national television shows. In addition, he has been the subject of several print articles throughout his career, appearing in

prestigious papers such as the Washington Post. He is a frequent guest conductor with professional and academic ensembles, most recently appearing with the Winston-Salem Symphony, Western Piedmont Symphony and the NC Brass Band.

Ensembles under Norman's direction have performed at the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) conference, regional College Band Director National Association (CBDNA) conferences and the state music educators' conferences in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Kansas. He is the winner of several solo and chamber music competitions and was nominated for both a Virginia Governor's Award in Arts Excellence and a Grammy Award in co-producing the UNCG Wind Ensemble recording of "Fireworks".

He and his wife, Amanda, live happily in Pfafftown, NC with their dog, Miles, and cat, Max, a location in which they plan to reside for many years to come.

KAREN NÍ BHROIN commenced her position as assistant conductor to Timothy Redmond with the Winston-Salem Symphony in 2020. Here, she also holds the position of music director of the Youth Orchestras program. During the same season, Ní Bhroin accepted the position of associate conductor/visiting professor at UNCSA. Originally from Wexford, Ireland, she is one of Ireland's leading young conductors.

Ní Bhroin was part of the inaugural conducting academy at National Orchestral Institute, where she was a fellow with Marin Alsop in 2021. She was also a Britten Pears Young Artist under Alsop's guidance in 2018.

Ní Bhroin was RTÉ conductor-in-training from 2016-2018 working with the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra and RTÉ Philharmonic Choir in Dublin, Ireland. In that position she worked with chorus master Mark Hindley and the RTÉ Philharmonic Choir along with principal guest conductor Nathalie Stutzmann.

Ní Bhroin has appeared with the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, RTÉ Concert Orchestra, Akron Symphony Orchestra, National Music Festival, Dartington International Festival Orchestra and National Orchestral Institute Orchestra.

She is a music education graduate of Trinity College Dublin majoring in clarinet performance. She earned her Master of Music in orchestral conducting at Kent State University, Ohio, where she studied with Dr. Jungho Kim as his graduate assistant conductor

TIM HEATH is a graduate student at UNCSCA pursuing a Professional Artist Certificate in conducting. He is also director of athletic bands and assistant teaching professor of music at Wake Forest University (WFU) in Winston-Salem, NC. At WFU he oversees all aspects of the athletic band program and serves as a member of the conducting faculty assisting the concert bands. Previously, he was the director of athletic bands and assistant professor of music education at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, where he also served as a member of the conducting faculty. As a clinician, he has presented at the collegiate and high school levels across the United States. As a music educator, Heath has presented sessions and research at both the state and national levels and is published in *The Instrumentalist*, *The National Band Association Journal* and *Percussive Notes*.

UNCSCA MANIFESTO

We Believe

Artists enrich our culture, enlighten our society, lift our spirits, and feed our souls.

Integrative **arts education** from an early age sparks a lifetime of creative thinking, powerful self-expression, and innovative problem solving.

Rigorous **artistic training** empowers our students and graduates to engage our communities, advance local and global creative industries, and inspire the world.

Arts organizations improve the quality of life and place in big cities and small communities, transforming them from merely livable to truly lovable.

UNC School of the Arts nurtures the talent, hones the craft, and develops the unique voices of emerging artists. We realize the full potential of exceptionally creative and passionate students to do their best work and become their best selves.

DEAN'S COUNCILS FOR UNCSA

The Dean's Councils support each of UNCSA's five arts schools – Dance, Design & Production, Drama, Filmmaking, and Music. Dean's Council members support the school of their choosing with an annual gift of \$5,000 or more, work closely with the Dean to advance that school's mission and fundraising priorities, and enjoy a deeper relationship with the Dean and students of the school. If you are interested in joining one of these groups of committed individuals, please contact Vice Chancellor for Advancement Lissy Garrison at 336-770-3329 or garrisonl@uncsa.edu.

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THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The School of Music gives talented young artists the opportunity to perfect their musical talent and prepare for life as professional musicians. Our training includes both private instruction and public performance experience, including more than 150 recitals and concerts presented each year. This performance experience, combined with career development opportunities and studies in music theory, literature and style, provides the ultimate training to help young musicians grow as both artists and professionals.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

A UNCSA Cello Homecoming with Samuel Magill

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.
Watson Chamber Music Hall

Distinguished cellist Samuel Magill (High School '71), hailed as “flat out magnificent” by American Record Guide, returns to UNCSA, joining faculty-artist Dmitri Shteinberg, piano, for a special recital of masterworks by Franco Alfano, Eugene Bozza and John Ireland, as well as an “all UNCSA” cello collaboration with David Popper’s “Requiem for three cellos.”

Magill has garnered international acclaim as a soloist, chamber musician and recording artist. He is the former associate principal cello of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and former member of the Houston Symphony and the Pittsburgh Symphony. A champion of overlooked Romantic and early 20th-century repertoire, he has made world premiere recordings of Vernon Duke’s “Cello Concerto” and Franco Alfano’s 1925 “Cello Sonata,” both on the Naxos label.

Evening with the Great Rs of the 20th Century and Art

Saturday, February 26, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.
Watson Chamber Music Hall

Faculty-artist Dmitri Vorobiev, piano, will present a solo recital featuring Ravel’s “Le Tombeau de Couperin” and Rachmaninoff’s Etudes-tableaux Op. 39. Music will be accompanied by a slideshow of paintings from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Voice Students of Phyllis Pancella in Recital

Tuesday, March 1, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.
Watson Chamber Music Hall

UNCSA voice students of Phyllis Pancella perform in recital.

UNCSA

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