

UNCSA Percussion Ensemble Concert

John R. Beck, director

with guests

Jodi Burns, soprano

Robin Bountourabi Leftwich, djembe

Watson Chamber Music Hall

Tuesday, April 12, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.

Presented by

UNC School of the Arts

Brian Cole, Chancellor

School of Music

Saxton Rose, Dean



uncsa.edu/performances

UNCSA Percussion Ensemble Concert

Shche ne vmerla Ukrainy.....Mykhailo Verbytsky
(1815 - 1870)
arr. Arsen Buchynsky

Gymel (1976)..... William Duckworth
(1943 - 2012)
music for pieces of wood (1972)..... Steve Reich
(b. 1936)

The Electric City (2008)..... Eugene Koshinski
(b. 1980)

from Energy in All Directions (2020)..... Kenneth Frazelle
Energy in All Directions (Ian Berry) (b. 1955)
Phantom Limb (Forrest Gander)
Sing (Eileen Myles)

Jodi Burns, soprano

INTERMISSION

Rudimental Clave (2020)..... John Wooton
(b. 1963)

Danté Thomas, snare drum

Hands Up (2002)..... Josh Gottry
(b. 1974)

Fusão Árabe (2019)..... Adam Snow and Justin Bunting
(b. 1977) (b. 1986)

Traditional Music of West Africa
Robin Bountourabi Leftwich, djembe

*UNCSA Percussion Ensemble
Benjamin Burson
Michael Cornwell
Sebastiaan deWaart
Garrett Strauss
Danté Thomas*

TEXTS

Energy in All Directions (Ian Berry)

Energy in all directions

Phantom Limb (Forrest Gander)

The poor and the brutalized. A prayer bruise.

Erosional debris piles up in a rift valley.

As the world pours into me, I pour into the broken word.

But what detonation blew these letters apart?

When we read, what transpires but a yearning between letters?

Bitterness. Pain.

Phantom limb. Though what is absent speaks.

Hey abyss. you still don't possess all of me.

Bringing about this call and response.

The way a phantom limb is cured with a mirror. To wit, to see what is there.

Sing (Eileen Myles)

The beautiful river

She is moving two ways

I want it

swirling into the night

the mountains and the silence turns

and turning

sings and burning

oh sing sing and sing

BIOGRAPHIES

Composer Kenneth Frazelle's music has been commissioned and performed by numerous prominent artists, including Yo-Yo Ma, Jeffrey Kahane, Dawn Upshaw, Anthony Dean Griffey, Emmanuel Ax, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Ransom Wilson, Paula Robison, John Adams, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Jan DeGaetani and Gilbert Kalish. He has received commissions from Music@Menlo, the Ravinia Festival and the Spoleto Festival. Frazelle first received international acclaim with his score for *Still/Here*, a multimedia dance theater work for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Co. Frazelle has received awards and fellowships from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the American Academy in Rome and Columbia University, and he was the winner of the 2001 Barlow Prize, the international competition administered through Brigham Young University. He has held residencies with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Santa Rosa Symphony and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Frazelle was a pupil of Roger Sessions at The Juilliard School and attended high school at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA), where he studied with Robert Ward. His music is published by Subito Music Corporation.

Jodi Burns has been described as singing with a "plush voice and rich expressivity" (NYT) and with "a golden pure voice with beauty in all ranges"(CVNC). In her appearance in the Southeastern premiere of Kevin Puts' "Silent Night" with Piedmont Opera, The Winston-Salem Journal noted, "Burns dazzled with her lustrous soprano and bright charisma. The production is elevated whenever she appears on stage."

She recently appeared to high acclaim with Piedmont Opera as Laretta in "Gianni Schicchi;" as Mary in "Mary, Queen of Scots" and as Adina in "The Elixir of Love." Other roles include: Ann Trulove ("The Rake's Progress") with The Princeton Festival, as well as Micaela ("Carmen"), Josephine ("H.M.S. Pinafore"), Rose ("Street Scene"), Zerlina ("Don Giovanni"), Barbarina ("The Marriage of Figaro"), the Dew Fairy ("Hansel and Gretel") and Ida ("Die Fledermaus"). Burns has sung frequently with The Winston-Salem Symphony, The North Carolina Symphony and The

Piedmont Wind Symphony. Collaborations with composer Kenneth Frazelle have been frequent in recent years, including with Piedmont Opera in 2020.

Burns earned her Master of Music from UNCSA through the Fletcher Opera Institute (2011), where she studied with Marilyn Taylor, and she earned her Bachelor of Music in Education from The Ohio State University. She is now a member of the voice faculty at UNCSA. Burns will be appearing with the Western Piedmont Symphony in April 2022, singing Richard Strauss' "Four Last Songs."

Robin "Bountourabi" Leftwich has been a student of West African art and culture for over 25 years. Her three trips to Guinea, West Africa, have given her a unique and authentic perspective on the role of the djembe in African ceremonies, celebrations and everyday life.

Bountou's combined experiences and training have allowed her to become known as a very respected and knowledgeable teacher. She has a special talent for sharing her love of the djembe and African culture with students of all levels. In 2010, Bountou co-founded Happy Beat Drumming with Rachel Juren. Since that time, she has traveled throughout the Southeast teaching drumming and drum-building, as well as performing, consulting and providing workshops.

Bountou has studied in Guinea with Fode Moussa Camara and various teachers from the Gbassikolo Ballet. She has also studied with Aly Camara, Mohammed Decosta, Bolokada Conde, Nansady Keita, Famoudou Konate, Mamady Keita, John Scalici, Jim Donovan, Ubaka Hill, Bill Scheidt and Tom Harris. Additionally, Bountou is a graduate of the Therapeutic Drumming Instructor Training program with Tom Harris.

JOHN R. BECK has been a member of the faculty at UNCSA since 1998. He is the principal percussionist of the Winston-Salem Symphony and also performs with the Greensboro Symphony, Brass Band of Battle Creek, Philidor Percussion Group and the Blue Mountain Ensemble.

A former member and tour soloist with the United States Marine Band, while living in Washington, D.C., Beck also performed regularly with the

National and Baltimore symphonies, Washington and Baltimore operas, and the Theater Chamber Players of the Kennedy Center. He has toured the United States as a xylophone soloist with the Jack Daniel's Silver Cornet Band, Brass Band of Battle Creek and the New Sousa Band.

Beck is a past president of the Percussive Arts Society and holds degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory and the Eastman School of Music. He is a recipient of the American Symphony Orchestra League's Ford Award for Excellence in Community Service for his work using music in healthcare settings.

UNCSA 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@unca.edu.

DEAN'S COUNCIL FOR THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm M. Brown

Mr. and Mrs. F. Hudnall Christopher, Jr.

Mr. Henry W. Church

Ms. Jean C. Davis

Mr. and Mrs. Drew M. Dixon

Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Driscoll

Mr. and Mrs. Barry A. Eisenberg

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Fort, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Gehring

Mrs. Katherine B. Hoyt

Dr. and Mrs. Frederic R. Kahl

Mr. Thomas S. Kenan, III

Mr. Joseph P. Logan

Mr. and Mrs. Elliott McBride

Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus R. McBride

Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. McNair

Dr. Kathryn Mitchener

Dr. Jane Pfefferkorn and

Mr. William G. Pfefferkorn

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Watson

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Wigodsky

Ms. Patricia J. Wilmot

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

Watson Brass

Tuesday, April 19, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.
Watson Chamber Music Hall

A concert with Watson Brass, made up of faculty from the School of Music, will feature works for brass quintet, including Reena Esmail's "KhirKhiyaan."

Spring Opera: "Volpone"

Wednesday, April 20, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 22, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 24, 2022 • 2 p.m.
Agnes de Mille Theatre

"Volpone" ("The Fox"), 2004, is a bright, biting comedy inspired by the classic Ben Jonson play of the same name.

The wealthy Volpone feigns mortal illness in order to con a group of his so-called "friends" into believing that each of them will inherit his fortune. The lengths to which they go in the name of greed make for an evening of high humor. Guest Conductor John McKeever, who earned a B.M. in double bass and an M.M. in orchestral conducting from UNCSCA, will lead the orchestra. Guest artist Eve Summer, whose productions have been called "ingenious" and "imaginative" by Opera News, will direct. "Volpone" is sung in English, with music by John Musto and libretto by Mark Campbell.

Spring Dance

April 21-23, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.
April 24, 2022 • 2 p.m.
Stevens Center for the Performing Arts

An exciting cross-pollination of classical ballet and contemporary dance, the varied program of Spring Dance will include five pieces highlighted by a brand-new reimagining of "The Seven Deadly Sins" by guest choreographer Gina Patterson.

UNCSCA

uncsa.edu/performances