

IOWA

School of Music



ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the

UI Symphony Orchestra

Dr. Mélisse Brunet, director of orchestral studies

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Hancher Auditorium

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UI Symphony Orchestra
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PROGRAM

Angel's Dance (2011) Stephen Amundson (b. 1975)

Following Yonder Star (2001) Christopher Tyler Nickel (b. 1978)

White Christmas (1998) Irving Berlin (1888–1989)
arr. John Moss
Mitchell Widmer, *baritone*

"Waltz of the Flowers" Pyotr Illych Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)
from *The Nutcracker* (1892)
Megan Maddaleno, *graduate student conductor*

Concerto for Two Violins in A Minor, Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)
op. 3, no. 8 (1711)
I. Allegro
Preucil School of Music, *solo violins*
Alex Arellano, *graduate student conductor*

Hot Santa (2013) James M. Stephenson (b. 1969)
Brennan Martinez, *soprano*

-INTERMISSION-

"Troika" (1934) Sergei Prokofiev (1891–1953)
from *Lieutenant Kijé Suite*
Alex Arellano, *graduate student conductor*

"Walking in the Air" (1982) Howard Blake (b. 1938)
from *The Snowman*
Esther Puderbaugh, *voice*
Dr. David Puderbaugh, *conductor*

The Polar Express (2004) Alan Silvestri (b. 1950)
Concert Suite and Glen Ballard (b. 1953)
arr. Jerry Brubaker

Klezmer 101 (2004)
for clarinet and orchestra

Robin (b. 1958) and
Harold Seletsky (1927-2010)
orchd. Brian S. Wilson

Professor Jorge Montilla Moreno, *clarinet*

Thunder and Lightning Polka (1864)

Johann Strauss Jr.
(1825-1899)

Fernanda Lastra, *graduate student conductor*

Caribbean Sleigh Ride (2010)

Robert Wendel (b. 1951)

BIOGRAPHIES

Clarinetist, educator, and composer **Jorge Montilla Moreno**, was praised by *The American Record Guide* as “somebody who can perform with great enthusiasm and know how to make the repertoire of his native continent jump off the page with effortless technique, subtle dance accents and tasteful vibrato.” His major accomplishments encompass successes in performance, education, and creativity.

Montilla Moreno is best known for being a spokesperson for both Latin American music and the E-flat clarinet. Jorge Montilla Moreno is the first Latin American clarinetist to record under the distinguished British label “Clarinetclassics.” (0061) Jorge Montilla Moreno is one of the many fine musicians produced by Venezuela’s “El Sistema.” Also found on the major social media networks as *clarinetevzla*, Jorge is often invited to perform live, with notable partners, in colleges, music festivals, and concert series worldwide.

In his personal career, he has appeared as soloist, recitalist, composer, and/or pedagogue in stages across the United States, Japan, Martinique, France, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, China, Peru, Spain, Mexico, Italy, Chile, Barbados, Sta. Lucia, Puerto Rico, China, Ecuador, and Brazil. Montilla Moreno began his clarinet studies at the age of ten in his native country, Venezuela. A believer in educating younger generations, he has been the chairman of the clarinet department at the Conservatory of Music Simón Bolívar and clarinet professor at the Latin American Academy of Venezuela. In the United States, Montilla Moreno’s teaching experience includes teaching at Arizona State University and Longy School of Music of Bard College.

Mr. Montilla received a master’s degree and an artist diploma from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he studied with Howard Klug. Other notable teachers include Luis Rossi, Eli Eban, James Campbell, Walter Boeykens, Antony Pay, and Ricardo Morales. Former Principal Clarinet of the Simon Bolivar Symphony Orchestra, Montilla Moreno was also a founding member and Artistic Director of the Caracas Clarinet Quartet. His many compositions and arrangements have made him one of today’s most pre-eminent composer/arranger for clarinet ensembles.

At present, Jorge Montilla is Assistant Professor of Clarinet at the University of Iowa School of Music. He is also a columnist for the International Clarinet Association’s magazine *The Clarinet* and keeps a hectic international career as a soloist and clinician.

Jorge Montilla represents: Rossi Clarinets, D’Addario Reeds, Clarinetclassics, Royal Music Products, Lefreque sound bridges, and BG Ligatures. His compositions and arrangements are published by Woodwindiana Editions and Montilla Brothers Editions (co-founded with brother Javier Montilla). Jorge Montilla Moreno is represented worldwide by QuatreKlammer.

Dr. David Puderbaugh is Assistant Director of Choral Activities at the University of Iowa, where he conducts University Choir and teaches graduate choral literature and undergraduate choral conducting. He is also Associate Director of the School of Music and Director of Graduate Studies, overseeing the department's vibrant graduate program. A native Iowan, Dr. Puderbaugh holds a bachelor's degree from Drake University, a master's degree from the University of Missouri, and a doctorate from the University of Iowa. Dr. Puderbaugh is Music Director of Chamber Singers of Iowa City; under his leadership, the ensemble has performed such works as Beethoven's *Mass in C Major*, Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *The Seasons*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, and Rachmaninov's *All-Night Vigil*.

Dr. Puderbaugh's current research interest centers on Estonian choral music, a fascination that resulted in a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct dissertation research on that country's national song festivals during the Soviet occupation. He is committed to bringing the Baltic region's vast choral treasury to the United States through performance as well as the creation of performing and critical editions. His recording with the Estonian chamber choir Voces Tallinn, *A Black Birch in Winter* (MSR Classics, 2019), featured new choral music from Estonia and the U.S. and won Recording of the Year in Estonia in 2020.

Dr. Puderbaugh is active in several professional organizations, and serves as president-elect of the Midwestern American Choral Directors Association. Additionally, Dr. Puderbaugh is a member of the National Collegiate Choral Organization, College Music Society, and Pi Kappa Lambda music honor society. In addition to his conducting and scholarly activities, Dr. Puderbaugh is an active tenor soloist. Among his solo credits are Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *The Creation*, Mozart's *C-Minor Mass*, and the Evangelist role in Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and Schütz's *St. John Passion*.

Brennan Martinez has been described as "a mezzo-soprano to be watched" (Opera Lively) and sings with "power, authority, and a most intriguing color to her wide-ranging voice" (Classical Voice of North Carolina).

Brennan feels equally at home with both opera and musical theatre repertoire. Recent performances include Madeline Mitchell in *Three Decembers* at the University of Iowa, Armeline in Viardot's *Cinderella*, and Anna Kennedy in *Maria Stuarda* with Piedmont Opera, Carmen in *The Tragedy of Carmen* with the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival, and Consuelo in *West Side Story* with the Glimmerglass Festival. She was also a member of the closing night ensemble of *Kristin Chenoweth: My Love Letter to Broadway* at the Lunt-Fontaine Theatre in New York City.

She is currently pursuing a D.M.A. in voice and is a teaching assistant at the University of Iowa. She holds a Master of Music degree from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and was a Fletcher Fellow at the A.J. Fletcher Opera Institute. She also holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Wanda L. Bass School of Music at Oklahoma City University. www.brennanmartinez.com

Esther Puderbaugh, a ninth grader at Iowa City High School, has been singing in public since the age of six, with several national anthem performances for University of Iowa athletics, the Iowa Cubs, Veterans Day celebrations, and the 2020 Democratic National Convention. She has appeared in concert with Simon Estes and with Chamber Singers of Iowa City, the latter as featured soloist in Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. Esther is drawn to the stage as well, appearing in City High School's 2019 production of *Les Misérables* and as the female understudy for City High's 2021 staging of *Noises Off*. Esther studies voice with Jessica Pray Patel, viola and piano at the Preucil School of Music, and participates in choir, journalism, speech, and mock trial at her high school.

Mitchell Widmer, baritone, is a native of Williamsburg, Iowa and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa. Roles he has performed include Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Orpheus in Telemann's *Orpheus*, Papageno in *Die Zauberflöte*, Il Notario in *Gianni Schicchi*, Colonel Calvary in *Patience*, and Dick Deadeye in *H.M.S. Pinafore*. Concert highlights include Pelléas in scenes from

Pelléas et Mélisande, Joe Buchanan in Lee Hoiby's *Summer and Smoke*, Herr Fluth in *Die Lustige Weiber von Windsor*, and baritone soloist in Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*.

Mitchell has received several awards that have taken him abroad, including the Baden-Württemberg Stipendium and the US Teaching Assistant Grant under Fulbright Austria. During his time in Europe, he was a member of the ensemble at the Stadttheater Freiburg and sang the role of Alte Zigeuner in Verdi's *Il Trovatore*. He has also taken part in many training programs and festivals, including the International Vocal Institute, Cedar Rapids Opera Theater Young Artist Program, Musiktheater Bavaria, and Stimmepunkt Freiburg.

Mitchell received his Masters of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music. During that time, he was a regular chorister and soloist at The Riverside Church of New York City, where he sang in the Martin Luther King "Beyond Vietnam Speech" anniversary concert.

Mitchell is a first year D.M.A candidate at the University of Iowa, under the tutelage of Dr. Royce Blackburn. He is the recipient of the Walker Fellowship at UI.

Martín Alexander Arellano is an active conductor and composer from the United States currently based in Iowa City, IA and a first year Master of Musical Arts student in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Iowa with Dr. Mélisse Brunet. Alex is the founder and current Artistic Director of the Central California Youth Wind Ensemble based in Turlock, CA that premiered its first season in 2015.

Alex began studying instrumental conducting with Stuart Sims at the California State University: Stanislaus and since has worked with Robert Carnochan and Stephen Moore at the University of Miami. He was most recently studying at the Strasbourg Conservatoire in Strasbourg, France with Miguel Etchegoncelay and Theodor Guschlbauer where he was selected to conduct in a master class with David Reiland and the Orchestre National de Metz in Metz, France.

Alex has attended various conducting workshops with Paul Vermel (Emeritus, Northwest Symphony Orchestra), Neil Thomson (Philharmonic Orchestra of Goiás), Peter Jaffe (Stockton Symphony), and Diane Wittry (Allentown Symphony Orchestra). Alex was also a Conducting Fellow with the Miami Symphony Orchestra with Maestro Eduardo Marturet in the 2016 - 2017 season.

Fernanda Lastra was born in Mar del Plata, Argentina. She is a passionate and creative conductor with an energetic personality which characterizes her artistic and leadership style. Fernanda currently serves as Assistant Conductor for the University of Iowa Symphony Orchestra and she has recently been appointed Director of Orchestras at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. From 2018 to 2020 she served as assistant conductor for the UI opera program conducting productions such as *Little Women* by Mark Adamo.

In 2021 Fernanda was awarded Fellow Conductor at the Cabrillo Festival for New Music and in 2018 awarded First Prize in the Opera de Bauge Conducting Competition in France. In 2020, she created Compositores.AR, a cycle of interviews of Argentinian composers in collaboration with MúsicaClásicaBA in Buenos Aires and collaborated with Boulanger Initiative's internship program.

During 2016-2017 Fernanda served as conductor for the Central Pennsylvania Youth Orchestra, and in 2013 she created La Trama Ensemble, an orchestral project that she led for four years as its artistic and musical director. As educator Fernanda served from 2008-2012 as Professor of Orchestral Activities at El Sistema, Argentina, and from 2005 to 2016 as Assistant Professor at La Plata University, Argentina.

Trained as a pianist, Fernanda holds two Bachelor's degrees from La Plata University in orchestral and choral conducting, a Master's degree in orchestral conducting from Penn State University, and she is completing Doctoral studies in orchestral conducting at the University of Iowa.

Megan Maddaleno is a current Doctor of Musical Arts student in orchestral conducting at the University of Iowa. There, she has had the immense privilege of conducting the orchestral ensembles, opera workshops, and new music initiatives, as well as studying under such respected conductors as Dr. Mélisse Brunet, Dr. William LaRue Jones, Professor David E. Becker, and violinist Dr. Scott Conklin. In November of 2021, she also had the honor of conducting the Fall Opera Production, *Three Decembers* by Jake Heggie. Awards received during her time at UI include the Yamaha Fellowship for Eastman Leadership Academy in Summer 2020, the 2019 UI Summer Music Research Grant for her involvement in conducting workshops, and membership of the collegiate pedagogical association, Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning.

A passionate educator, Megan was the Director of Orchestras for Columbia Public Schools prior to pursuing her graduate degrees. While in Columbia, Missouri, Megan was a conducting student of Maestro Kirk Trevor, and acted as Musical Assistant of the Missouri Symphony Society Conservatory. In recent years, she has acted as Cover Conductor and Assistant Conductor for the Missouri Symphony's summer and winter seasons. An advocate for new music, she also collaborated with the Missouri Composer's Project and Columbia Civic Orchestra to conduct premieres of local composers.

Megan Maddaleno received her Bachelor of Music Education degree with emphasis in instrumental studies from Webster University, and her Masters of Orchestral Conducting from the University of Iowa.

French conductor **Dr. Mélisse Brunet**, living in Iowa City, IA, is quickly gaining attention on both sides of that Atlantic as a "skilled and polished conductor with panache" (ClevelandClassical.com). She has just won the position of Director of Orchestral Studies at the University of Iowa School of Music, conducting the orchestras in symphonic concerts, operas, and musical theater, as well as teaching orchestral conducting to master and doctorate students. She is the new Music Director of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, an orchestra made of freelance musicians from the NYC and Philadelphia areas. A protégée of Pierre Boulez, Dr. Brunet is one of the 14 finalists selected over 200 applicants for the second edition of the International Competition La Maestra in March 2022. She was one of the six conductors selected for the 2018 Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview, chosen for their "experience, talent, leadership potential, and commitment to a career in service to American orchestras." She was one of the six women conductors chosen for the International Hart Institute for Women Conductors at the Dallas Opera in 2017, selected from over 161 applicants from 33 countries.

As a dynamic advocate of contemporary music, Brunet has collaborated with composers such as T.J. Cole, Steven Stucky, Michael Daugherty, Shulamit Ran, James Barry, and Jennifer Higdon, among others. In 2014 she was a selected conductor at the prestigious Cabrillo Festival for new music in California. As an opera and music-theatre conductor, Brunet has conducted *Dead Man Walking* by Jake Heggie and Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* at the Power Center in Ann Arbor; four staged performances of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*; and Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti*, Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*, Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, and Strauss II's *Die Fledermaus* in Boone, NC.

A native of Paris, Brunet began her studies on the cello, and also learned to play the trumpet, French horn and piano. She holds six diplomas from the Paris Conservatory (in analysis, harmony, counterpoint, renaissance counterpoint, orchestration, and a master's in orchestral conducting), and the Université la Sorbonne, as well as a professional studies diploma from the Cleveland Institute of Music and a doctorate in conducting from the University of Michigan. Aside from Pierre Boulez, her mentors have included Kenneth Kiesler, Lawrence Loh, Carl Topilow, Zsolt Nagy, and Joel Smirnoff. She also took part in international workshops where she studied with Marin Alsop, Gustav Meier, David Stern, Peter Eötvös, and Jorge Mester. She studied French, English, German, and Italian lyric diction, and she speaks English, French, Italian, Chinese, and German.

Website: melissebrunet.com

University of Iowa Symphony Orchestra

Dr. Mélisse Brunet, *director of orchestral studies*

VIOLIN 1

Renee Santos*
Rachel Li**
Ramel Price
Ryan Staub
Caitlyn Valencia
Nikki Chen
Madeline McCourt
Uriel Campos-Padilla
Junhong Zhou
Oriana Ross
Shengho Wang

VIOLIN 2

Sarah Harmon*
Ollie Bostian**
Anna Scott
Amol Bhagavathi
Hannah Pinski
Olivia Young
Kendra Thompson
Bair Brandt
Riley Carey Fox
Bailee Bean
Anna Leahy
Anastacia Braslavsky
Madison Sheriff
Grace McKay

VIOLA

Fatima Gassama*
Allie Schumacher**
Oliver Yoder
Trevor Bitner
Wayne Joseph
Marissa Beaty
Alex Lenaers
Anna Moses
Hanna Kramer
Grace Ritter
Trevor Bitner
Daniela Rybarczyk

CELLO

Sarah Hansen*
Natalie Krzeski**
Kim Hanks
Emily Airhart
Oskar Kaut
Cece Brown
Dean Wibe
Matti Brandenburg
Madison Brady
David Hitchman
Lydia Meikle
Allyson Liu
Adrián Gómez Hernández

BASS

Natalia Terra*
Xiaowen Tang**
Paras Bassuk
Travell Wright
Alexander Waters

FLUTE

Tâmila Freitas de Souza*
Katie Woody**
Caleb Estrada-Valentín, *piccolo*

OBOE

Lisa Lutgen*
Lauren Carley**
Kate Caldwell, *english horn*

CLARINET

Arianna Edvenson*
Benjamin Hukvari**

BASSOON

Sara Remoy*
Keegan Hockett
Carlos López Soria,
contrabassoon

HORN

Yi-Hsun Tang*
Renee Thomas**
Yonghao Zhang
Anna Cullinan

TRUMPET

Kevin Sells
Drew Duncan
Meaghan Reinschmidt

TROMBONE

Benjamin Hahn*
Lydia Rose**
Jacob Clearman, *bass*

TUBA

John Reyna

HARP

Pamela Weest-Carrasco

PIANO, CELESTE

Klyde Ledamo

TIMPANI

Gabriel Albertus*

PERCUSSION

Yoni Eisenstein*, *drum set*
Gabriel Albertus
John O'Shaughnessy
Wil Voelker

Alex Arellano, *graduate assistant*
Jonathan Hart, *graduate assistant*
Fernanda Lastra, *graduate assistant and main librarian*
Megan Maddaleno, *graduate assistant and orchestra manager*

* Principal

** Assistant Principal

PREUCIL SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded in 1975 by Doris and her husband William, the Preucil School of Music is a nonprofit, community owned school, which offers excellence in musical training and provides facilities for family centered musical enrichment. It serves 700 students aged three through adult, some from as far away as 200 miles. It is a fully certified member of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts.

The Preucil School of Music is dedicated to the development of ability in all children, teaching according to the philosophy of Shinichi Suzuki, who has proven that particular talents are not inborn, and that all children can develop their abilities in music and other areas to a high level if they learn in the manner that they learned to speak their "mother tongue." The School offers excellence in early childhood education and music instruction for students of all ages in a caring, nurturing environment. It helps parents and children to share in the learning process, serves as a center for involvement in varied early childhood and musical activities, and attempts to create a rich musical and educational environment in the community.

The Preucil School believes music training is life training, of equal importance to all children regardless of economic status. It aims to keep tuition affordable and offers aid to those students in need of assistance who demonstrate a desire to learn. The Preucil School has achieved international renown through the excellence of the students, the success of its graduates and the workshops presented by William and Doris Preucil, Sonja Zeithamel and other faculty throughout the United States and abroad.

PERSONNEL

Ensemble "Con Brio" directed by Linda Judiesch
and ensemble "Espressivo Strings" directed by Lisa Guttenberg.

VIOLIN 1

Tai Caputo
Liam Edberg
Emma Hong
Hanah Kitamoto
Caroline Mascardo
Yuning Shao
Abigail Sigafoose
Akiho Sugiyama

VIOLIN 2

Andrew Chen
Erin Chen
Andrew Dong
Lydia Evans
Yuzuka Fujikawa
Sophia Jin
Anjali Lodh
Maggie Nguyen
Anna Song

UPCOMING EVENTS

For the most up to date listing of concerts and recitals, please visit arts.uiowa.edu.

All events are FREE unless otherwise indicated.

View livestreamed concerts at music.uiowa.edu/livestream.

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