

Jefferson Campbell in Concert



Jefferson Campbell in Concert Jefferson Campbell, Bassoon Eric Van der Veer Varner, Bassoon Lisa Leonard, Piano Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall Boca Raton, Fla.

## **PROGRAM**

Tarantella Ludwig Milde (1849-1913)

Improvisation Steven Moellering (b. 1974)

Suite for Bassoon and Piano

I. Introduction and Allegro

II. Sarabande

III. Scherzo

Alexandre Tansman (1897-1986)

Concertino for Bassoon and Electronic Playback Jess Hendricks

I. Aria

(b.1972)

II. Dance and Fugue

III. Adventurous

# **INTERMISSION**

Nostalgia for Bassoon and Piano

Justin Rubin (b. 1971)

Delta Jukebox for Two Bassoons and Piano

I. Meadow Music

II. Bearsville Bounce

III. Even Bassoonists Get the Blues

Peter Schickele

(b. 1935)

Concerto in E Minor

I. Allegro poco

II. Andante

III. Allegro

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

With a focus on music that appeals to all audiences, Dr. Jefferson Campbell has commissioned and premiered over 20 new works for the bassoon in recent years. His New York City debut recital at Symphony Space in January of 2012 was titled "21st Century Bassoon: music that's fun to play" and featured music composed since 2003. His collaborations with composers Jess Hendricks, Justin Rubin and marimbist/composer Gene Koshinski have resulted in a series of popular new pieces featuring the bassoon in a variety of settings including bassoon alone, with piano, with electronic playback and with various combinations of percussion. The recently popular funk bassoon duet "Get It!" by Koshisnki was the result of a commission from Campbell in 2007. Dr. Campbell has appeared several times on Nebraska Public Radio, and North Carolina Public Radio. Among his several compact disc recordings, Nostalgia (Innova), which features Dr. Campbell as soloist and chamber musician, was a Grammy Award semifinalist in 2009. He has performed with the Bowling Green Symphony Orchestra, Lincoln Symphony, Omaha Symphony, Owensboro Symphony, Greensboro Symphony, Sioux City Symphony, Chicago Chamber Orchestra, Richland-Kennewick Symphony, the Chengdu Philharmonic, and the Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Campbell has presented master classes at the Sichuan Conservatory of Music in Chengdu, China, the Conservatoire Regionnale Rayonnement Boulogne-Billancourt in Paris, France, the Conservatoire Regionnale Rayonnement Lyon in France, the Conservatorio de Tatui in Brazil, Glazunov Conservatory in Petrozavodsk, Russia, the Saint Petersburg Conservatory in Saint Petersburg, Russia, and in North Carolina, South Carolina, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana. He has performed as a recital soloist in Florida, California, Colorado, Kentucky, North Carolina, New York, South Carolina, Nebraska, Minnesota and also Germany, France, Brazil, Russia and China. Dr. Campbell is a member of the International Double Reed Society, has been published in the *Double Reed*, and has performed and presented at the IDRS Annual Conferences in 2003 (Greensboro), 2006 (Muncie), 2007 (Ithaca), and 2015 (Tokyo, Japan). Recently, Dr. Campbell was a featured solicit with the Lake Superior Chamber Orchestra in performances of Vivaldi's *Concerto in E* Minor and Michael Daugherty's *Dead Elvis* in July, 2016.. Dr. Campbell has served as adjudicator for the 2012 Bassoon Chamber Music Composition Competition, the Silver

Sounds International Chamber Music Competition in Russia, the Minnesota Music Educator's Association All-State judge for bassoon, and in March of 2013, he performed as soloist at the College Music Society Rocky Mountain conference at the University of Denver. His upcoming projects include a revision of his instructional text Training Wheels for the Bassoon for its 14th Anniversary, and a compact disc recording of newly-commissioned music for the bassoon in 2017. His academic research interests lie in the area of music for film, where he has developed and instructs a course on this topic at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Additionally, Dr. Campbell is an authority on the music of the Star Wars saga, and frequently presents a lecture-presentation called "John Williams: The Other Star Wars Storyteller" in academic and public settings throughout the country. He is an advocate of film music and raising audience awareness of its importance as an element of film and for its own artistic merit. He holds the Bachelor of Music in Music Education degree from Western Kentucky University, the Master of Music degree in Bassoon Performance and Chamber Music from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and the Doctor of Music Arts degree in Bassoon Performance from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His primary teachers were Cynthia Estill, C. Larry Long, Mark Popkin, Gary Echols and Dr. Albie Micklich. His dissertation topic was a performance and theoretical analysis of the Duo Sonata for Two Bassoons by Sofia Gubaidulina including a microtonal fingering chart and performance practice for extended techniques. It was the first academic paper on that composer's work for bassoon. Dr. Campbell is currently the Associate Professor of Bassoon and Head of the Department of Music at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Bassoonist Eric Van der Veer Varner has enjoyed a particularly rich and varied musical career. He was the principal bassoonist with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra from 2004 through 2015. He appeared as a soloist with the orchestra on numerous occasions, where his playing was critically hailed as that "of ineffable liquid beauty". Previously, he held positions with the Ann Arbor Symphony, the Michigan Opera Theater, and the Sarasota Opera. He performs in numerous summer festivals, including the Bellingham Festival of Music, the Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, and the Glickman-Popkin Bassoon Camp. Currently professor of bassoon and woodwind department chair at the Lynn Conservatory, Dr. Varner has previously held faculty appointments at Miami University (Ohio), Heidelberg University, and the University of

Windsor. He also spent fourteen summers working at the Interlochen Arts Camp, where he was the Assistant Director of the High Schools Boys Division. Dr. Varner is the owner of TrevCo-Varner Music, "the world's foremost purveyor of fine sheet music for double reeds". TrevCo-Varner Music is the largest company in the world dedicated solely to double reed music, with over 13,000 titles in stock from publishers all over the world. In his capacity as owner, he is at the forefront of the new music scene, commissioning new works, creating new editions of forgotten gems, and striving to make double reeds more accessible to the public. An active soloist and chamber musician, Dr. Varner has appeared throughout Europe, the United States, and Canada. He is a founding member of the PEN Trio, a trio d'anche that explores the both traditional repertoire for reed trio, as well as championing new music. In collaboration with TrevCo Music Publishing, the PEN Trio Collection was recently founded in order to publish and disseminate works commissioned by the trio. The 2015 PEN Trio season includes performances in China, Hong Kong and Trinidad as well as tours in Florida and Texas. This year will also see the recording the PEN Trio's debut album, "Found Objects" with Sound Mirror in New York City, scheduled for release in 2016. Dr. Varner holds the Doctor of Musical Arts (2004) from the University of Michigan, where he also earned a Master of Music (2002) and a Bachelor of Music (1996) degree. He also holds a degree in Artistic Education (1998) from the Mannheim-Heidelberg Conservatory in Mannheim, Germany. His primary teachers were Richard Beene, Alfred Rinderspacher, Hugh Cooper and Michael Dicker.

Hailed as a pianist who "communicates deep artistic understanding through a powerful and virtuosic technique", Lisa Leonard enjoys a diverse career as soloist, chamber musician, and educator. In 1990 at the age of 17, Ms. Leonard made her debut with the National Symphony Orchestra in six concerts at the Kennedy Center. She has appeared throughout Europe, Japan, Russia, and North America with many orchestras including recent performances with the Redlands Symphony Orchestra, the Oregon Mozart Players, and the Simon Bolivar Orchestra of Venezuela with conductors including Gunther Schuller and Gustavo Dudamel. An active and dedicated chamber musician, her recent collaborations have included recitals with Elmar Oliveira, Marc Reese and Guillermo Figueroa. She is a long time member of the Palm Beach Chamber Players and has performed with members of the

Concertgebouw, Berlin, Vienna, New York, Cleveland, Dallas, Minnesota and Cincinnati Symphonies; American and Miami String Quartets, and the Empire Brass Quintet in performances featured on National Public Radios' "Performance Today" and "Command Performance" programs. Her love of new music has resulted in several premieres of both solo and chamber music including James Stephenson's Concerto for Trumpet and Piano which was written for her and her husband, Marc Reese, which they premiered with the Lynn University Philharmonia. The performance was noted as one of South Florida's Top 10 performances of 2007 which also included her performance of the Brahms F minor Piano Quintet at the Palm Beach Chamber Music Festival. Critic Lawrence Budmen said, "Her stellar technique, deeply penetrating musicality and volcanic power turned Brahms' darkly ruminative score into an edge of the seat tour de force. She uncovered new sonic layers in an awesome deconstruction of a chamber music masterpiece." Ms. Leonard has served on the faculties of the North Carolina School of the Arts, the Meadowmount School of Music as a collaborative pianist, and the Las Vegas Music Festival. She is currently the head of the Graduate Instrumental Collaborative Piano Program at Lynn University where she also directs the annual New Music Festival, a week-long celebration of modern music which has presented more than fifty world premieres since 2006. She has performed at many festivals including the Pacific Music Festival, Gilmore International and Caramoor; has been featured on Japan's NHK television network, PBS and can be heard on the Klavier, Centaur, and Summit labels. A native of Washington D.C., Ms. Leonard received her M.M. and B.M. from the Manhattan School of Music where she was the premiere recipient of both the Rubinstein and Balsam awards, two of the highest awards given. Her former teachers include Marc Silverman, Suzanne W. Guy, Eric Larsen, Isidore Cohen, Thomas Schumacher, Cynthia Phelps, David Geber and Trio. For the latest Meadowmount information please visit www.reeseleonardduo.com.



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- Jon Robertson, dean

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3601 N. Military Trail Boca Raton, FL 33431 Box Office: 561-237-9000 Email: tickets@lynn.edu

