

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE
COLLEGE OF ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

The Department of Music presents
The Faculty & Friends Concert Series

Vanitas Art

A multimedia presentation

featuring

Cynthia Lawing, Assistant Professor of the Practice,
Davidson College

Andrew Leventis, Associate Professor of Painting

Bonnie Noble, Associate Professor of Art History

David Russell, Anne R. Belk Distinguished Professor of Violin

Dylan Savage, Professor of Piano

Rowe Recital Hall
Rowe Arts Building

Tuesday September 19, 2023 | 7:30 pm

coaa.charlotte.edu

Program

Pavane pour une infante d efunte (Pavane for a Dead Princess)

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

Dylan Savage and Cynthia Lawing, piano

Infanta Margaret Theresa ‘Las Meninas’ by Diego Vel aquez

Introduction to Vanitas Painting Presentation

Bonnie Noble

Dies Irae

Intermezzo Op. 118, No. 6 in E-flat minor

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Cynthia Lawing, piano

Milonga En Re

Astor Piazzolla
(1921-1992)

Playera

Pablo de Sarasate
(1844-1908)

David Russell, violin
Dylan Savage, piano

Contemporary Vanitas Painting in the Covid Pandemic

Artist Talk, Andrew Leventis

Valse No. 2 from *Valse Nobles et Sentimentales*

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

Cynthia Lawing, piano

Rhapsody in E-flat minor, Op. 11, No. 4

Ernst von Dohnányi
(1877-1960)

Dylan Savage and Cynthia Lawing, piano

Q & A

Biographies



Cynthia Lawing is an Assistant Professor of the Practice at Davidson College. Her performance career has taken her throughout the United States, South America, Europe, and Asia, where she has served as an artist in residence, and has given master classes and individual lessons. She has performed with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Macau Philharmonic Orchestra, the Charlotte Symphony, the Davidson College Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra, the Springfield Symphony, the Salisbury Symphony, and the Western Piedmont Symphony, performing concertos of Beethoven, Mozart, Chopin, Ravel, Shostakovich, Grieg, Saint-Saens, Poulenc, and Gershwin.

She has enjoyed a lifelong partnership with her sister, Gloria Cook, as a duo piano team. The two have frequently toured together, and have performed many recitals and concertos, including a concert tour of Taiwan in July, 2023. She has enjoyed being a chamber performer throughout her career. She was a member of the Chamber Music Society of Charlotte, the Rhodora Trio, and the Bechtler Ensemble. She has recently founded a trio, the Chinese Musicians of Charlotte.

She has given lectures, lecture-recitals, and master classes at many colleges and universities, and she serves frequently as judge for piano competitions. She is in demand as a clinician for the NCMTA's annual workshops on competition repertoire. Additionally, she serves regularly as a clinician and lecturer in the discipline of Dalcroze Eurhythmics, in which she holds a separate degree. She is a composer of many works, primarily for piano, for solo instrument and piano, and for choir.

Andrew Leventis creates intricately detailed oil paintings of contemporary vanitas. He has recently depicted his stocked refrigerator and icebox throughout the global pandemic. Andrew earned a BFA from the American Academy of Art in Chicago and an MFA from Goldsmiths College, University of London. Venues exhibiting his work include York Art Gallery, UK; the Venice Arsenale, Italy; the Czong Institute for Contemporary Art, Korea; and the Mint Museum,



Charlotte. His work has been featured in art periodicals such as *Aesthetica Magazine* and *New American Paintings*. Andrew is represented by SOCO Gallery in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Dr. Bonnie Noble has been teaching at UNC Charlotte since 1999. She received her Ph.D. in Art History from Northwestern University, her M.A. in Art History from the University of Pennsylvania and her B.A. in Religious Studies from Northwestern University. Dr. Noble specializes in Northern Renaissance art, with a particular interest in the function of images in devotional practice. Her book *Lucas Cranach the Elder: Art and Devotion of the German Reformation*, was published in 2009 by the University Press of America. Her work has also appeared in such scholarly journals as *Reformation*,

Sixteenth Century Journal, and *Reformation and Renaissance Review*, and she is the author of chapters in major Art History publications such as "The Primacy of the Image in Northern European Art, 1400-1700" (Leiden: Brill, 2017), "Lucas Cranach der Jüngere und die Reformation der Bilder" (München: Hirmer, 2015), and "The Oxford Encyclopedia of Aesthetics, 2nd edition" (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2014). Her article "[A] work in which the angels are wont to rejoice": Lucas Cranach's Schneeberg Altarpiece" was honored with the Harold J. Grimm Prize, for the best article published in the previous year in the international field of Reformation Germany. She has received grants from the Kress Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Dr. Noble teaches upper-level classes in Northern Renaissance, Northern Baroque, and Gothic periods, as well as introductory surveys of Art History from the stone age to the twentieth century. Her current book project, provisionally called, "Mimesis, Melancholia and Misapprehension," explores the intersection of representational techniques such as linear perspective with the rise of depictions of Melancholia and anxieties about visual perception. In addition to Art History, Dr. Noble loves gardens, exploring new cities, yoga, and most of all, her family.

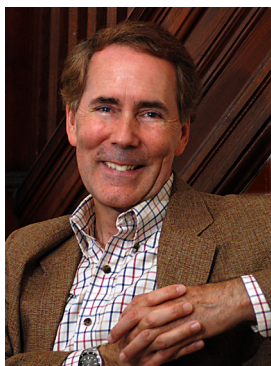
Violinist **David Russell** is one of the most celebrated violin pedagogues of his generation. Mr. Russell served on the Violin Faculty at The Cleveland Institute of Music for 24 years, and was also Visiting Violin Faculty at Oberlin College Conservatory of Music. He has been a member of



the faculty of some of the world's most prestigious violin schools, including Ivan Galamian's Meadowmount School of Music, the ENCORE School for Strings, Keshet Eilon International Violin Mastercourse (Israel), ARIA International Summer Music Academy, Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival, and Language and Music for Life courses in Llandoverly, Wales, Bristol, England, Le Chambon-sur-Lignon and Valbonne, Côte d'Azur, France. He also directs the annual Mountaintop Mastercourse for Violin in Keene, NY, a program that attracts students from around the globe. He is Director of Masterclass Al-Andalus in Alcalá la Real, Spain.

He has been a Distinguished Member of the Jury at international competitions such as the Sion-Valais International Violin Competition (Switzerland), and the International Violin Competition of Buenos Aires (Argentina), as well as at several important U.S. national competitions. Mr. Russell's former students include IMG Artist Chad Hoopes, members of orchestras such as The Cleveland Orchestra, the Boston Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, and others. Several are members of noted string quartets and still others are noted University and Conservatory teachers. He has presented recitals and masterclasses across North and South America, the Middle East, Europe, and Asia, and was the featured guest artist in the "World String Masters" performance and masterclass series in Lisbon, Portugal, as well as the featured teacher for the Guest Masterclass series at the Conservatorio Superior di Musica of Córdoba, Spain and the Shanghai Conservatory of Music in China.

Mr. Russell served as Artistic Director for the North American Premier of "Violins of Hope", a two-week series of concerts, lectures, films and museum exhibitions featuring 18 violins restored from the Jewish Holocaust by Israeli violin maker Amnon Weinstein. Currently, Mr. Russell is the Anne R. Belk Distinguished Professor of Violin at UNC Charlotte.



Dylan Savage is author of the book *The Transposed Musician: Teaching Universal Skills to Improve Performance and Benefit Life*, GIA Publications. It is the first book to present a comprehensive and systematic method for teaching universal skills within the context of the music lesson. Savage is co-author of the piano pedagogy book *A Symposium for Pianists and Teachers: Strategies to Develop the Mind and Body for Optimal Performance*, GIA Publications. He is the author of numerous articles found in *Clavier*, *Clavier Companion*, *American Music Teacher*,

and *Pianoforte* magazines on topics such as wellness, entrepreneurship, creativity, and universal skills. Professor Savage teaches an honors course to UNC Charlotte students in non-music disciplines called *The Art of Applying Universal Skills through Music: Crucial Tools for Life and Work*.

Dr. Savage pioneered the use of slow-motion video analysis to help pianists improve performance and minimize injury. That research has resulted in numerous master-classes at top music schools and national/international conferences. For decades, Savage has used the piano to teach universal skills and continuous improvement to professionals in non-music disciplines, including those from Fortune-500 companies. Applying universal skills to the study of music and to life is the foundation of his studio teaching at UNC Charlotte. His work has been featured in television spots on NBC and PBS affiliates and numerous podcasts. Dylan Savage, DM, is Professor of Piano at UNC Charlotte.

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Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

*Welcome to Our Village,
Please Invade Carefully*
by Eddie Robson

Thu Sep 28- Sat Sep 30 | 7:30 pm
Thu Oct 5- Sat Oct 7 | 7:30 pm
Sat Sep 30, Sun Oct 1, Sat Oct 7 | 2:00 pm
Black Box Theater

OCTOBER

Erin Palmer
Faculty & Friends Concert Series

Mon Oct 2 | 7:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church, Concord

Jeremy Marks, Eric Millard, & Joe Skillen
Faculty & Friends Concert Series

Tue Oct 10 | 7:30 pm
Rowe Recital Hall

Jazz Ensemble & Combos

Thu Oct 12 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

University Chorale

Mon Oct 16 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band

Wed Oct 18 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

Orchestra

Thu Oct 19 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

NOVEMBER

The Caligari Project
A Puppetry Workshop Production

Thu Nov 2- Sat Nov 4 | 7:30 pm
Sat Nov 4 & Sun Nov 5 | 2:00 pm
Black Box Theater

Gospel Choir

Mon Nov 6 | 7:30 pm
Rowe Recital Hall