



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS®

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

ANDREW MCGUIRE

Viola

with M. Isaac Ripple, oboe

Doctoral Lecture Recital

APRIL 18, 2026 | 3:30 PM

Harris Concert Hall

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music
Jacob Allen, Interim Director
College of Communication and Fine Arts
Deb Burns, Dean

PROGRAM

Lecture Recital:

Works of Michael Kahle; Expanding the Viola's Role Within the Classical Music Canon

Abstract

This project reexamines the role of the viola within the classical canon, arguing for its repositioning as a melodic and collaborative instrument rather than a purely supportive inner voice.

Analytical and experiential findings demonstrate that the viola's capacity to modify articulation, timbre, and projection enables it to mediate between contrasting instrumental families such as bowed strings, winds, and percussion. Grounded in performance-based research, this study investigates the viola's function in non-traditional chamber ensembles, with particular repertoire development through collaboration with composer Michael Kahle, whose works for mixed ensembles—including flute, vibraphone, oboe, piano, and wind ensemble—feature the viola as a primary melodic voice. Specific focus is given to how these works highlight the viola – a gap within the viola canon that has not been pursued by scholarship up to this point in history.

By challenging entrenched ensemble hierarchies, antiquated performance practices, and expanding repertoire, this dissertation contends that the viola is not merely an inner voice by necessity, but an adaptable and expressive instrument capable of sustained melodic leadership within contemporary chamber ensembles and their music.

PROGRAM

We are the stories we've been told
I. Yelling, she flew up the chimney
II. Suddenly, he turned into stone
III. There, I may turn musician

Michael Kahle (1996 -)

Sonata for Viola and Oboe
I. Tongue N' Cheek
II. Moving, but with weight
III. Deliberate, but light

Michael Kahle (1996 -)

M. Isaac Ripple, oboe

Concerto for Viola and Wind Ensemble
I. Vibrations
II. Resonance
III. Taut

Michael Kahle (1996 -)

COMMITTEE

Professor Lenny Schranze, chair

Dr. Albert Nguyen, cognate

Dr. Kimberly Patterson

Dr. Michelle Vigneau

Andrew McGuire is a student of Professor Lenny Schranze.
This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree.