



Rudi E. Scheidt  
School of Music

*presents*

## Chamber Music for Flute, French Horn, and Piano

Elise Blatchford, flute

Leander Star, horn

Stacy Rodgers, piano

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

7:30PM

Harris Concert Hall

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music  
Kevin Sanders, Director

College of Communication and Fine Arts  
Anne Hogan, Dean

# PROGRAM

Summer Night

Katherine Hoover  
(1937-2018)

Nocturno, Op. 7

Franz Strauss  
(1822-1905)

Nocturne for solo piano, Op. 33

Samuel Barber  
(1910-1981)

*Pause*

D'un matin de printemps for flute and piano

Lili Boulanger  
(1893-1910)

Ballade, Pastorale, and Dance

- I. Ballade
- II. Pastorale
- III. Dance

Eric Ewazen  
(b. 1954)

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Praised by the Cleveland Plain Dealer for her “superb command of color and nuance,” **Elise Blatchford** is the Associate Professor of Flute at the University of Memphis Scheidt School of Music in Tennessee.

A chamber musician, soloist, orchestral musician, and teacher, Ms. Blatchford is a flutist who embraces the independent, the experimental, and the DIY. As a founding member of the new music woodwind quintet The City of Tomorrow, Ms. Blatchford won first prize at the 2011 Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition and received a Chamber Music America Classical Commissioning grant in 2014. The quintet tours nationally and has enjoyed residencies at Yale, Tufts, Vermont College of Fine Arts, and Williams College. Ms. Blatchford has appeared with the International Contemporary Ensemble in New York and at the Banff Centre for Creativity in Alberta, Canada. As a recitalist, Ms. Blatchford frequently programs music of the 20th and 21st centuries, and has been an invited guest at venues across the U.S., including the Dame Myra Hess Series at the Chicago Cultural Center, Yale University, the University of Oregon, and Virginia Tech. This season will include recital appearances in Chicago, Memphis, Indiana, and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Ms. Blatchford holds degrees in flute performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the San Francisco Conservatory. A Powell Artist, she performs on a 14K gold handmade Powell flute.

The versatile and adventurous French hornist **Leander Star** leads a multi-dimensional career in multiple time zones. Based in Memphis, Tennessee, he is on faculty at Rhodes College and the University of Mississippi in Oxford, where he has the pleasure of teaching horn in the shadow of William Faulkner. In the Mid-South region, he is a regular performer with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, IRIS Orchestra, and the Arkansas Symphony.

Further afield, Leander tours with the New York-based avant-garde wind quintet The City of Tomorrow, a group that won the 2011 Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition. In June 2021, the ensemble’s second album, *Blow*, featuring works by Franco Donatoni, Hannah Lash, and Esa Pekka Salonen was released by New Focus Recordings. Leander’s “beautiful phrasing and effortless agility” were noted in a review by *The Horn Call*.

A Portland, Oregon native, Leander is a tenured member of the Oregon Ballet Theater and Portland Opera Orchestra and can often be found performing in the pit at the Keller Auditorium and in other venues in the Northwest. As a performer who prioritizes living composers, Leander commissioned and premiered a new work by Seattle composer Nat Evans at the 2015 Northwest Horn Symposium called *How to Stay Dry in Western Oregon*, based on Nat’s experiences and field recordings while hiking the Pacific Crest Trail. Leander has performed *Fantasie for Horns II* by Vancouver composer Hildegard Westerkamp all over the United States, including performances in Seattle, Portland, Eugene, Tennessee, and New York City.

Leander studied horn with Gail Williams and William Barnewitz at Northwestern University, with Bob Ward and Jonathan Ring at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and with Bill Stalnaker in Portland, Oregon.

**Stacy Rodgers** is a Professor Emeritus at The University of Mississippi where he served as Head of Keyboard Studies and Collaborative Piano. He performs frequently with his wife Diane Wang in the repertoire for two performers at one or two pianos, and as a flute/piano duo. At the national level, Mr. Rodgers has performed with members of the New York Philharmonic, University of Michigan wind faculty, violinist Scott St. John, trumpeter Rolf Smedvig, soprano Kallen Esperian, saxophonist Kenneth Tse, as well as artist faculty from institutions across the country.

Compact disc recordings include *Fantaisie Brillante: A Cornet Retrospective* (Centaur CRC 2743), and *Twelve Celebrated Fantaisies and Airs Varies* by Jean-Baptiste Arban (Centaur CRC 2917), both featuring a collaboration with Charles Gates, cornet; *Close to Home: Music of American Composers* with Michael Rowlett, clarinet (Albany TROY1385); *American Masterpieces for Piano Duo* (Albany TROY1427) with the Wang-Rodgers Piano Duo; two CDs with saxophonist Adam Estes—*Puzzles* (Albany TROY1658) and *Métissage* (MSR Classics MS1644); *Charles Ives: A Life in Music* (Albany TROY1711) with Bradley Robinson, baritone; and *Stepping Stones for Bass Trombone*, Vol. 1 (Potenza Music PM1047) with low brass master Micah Everett.