

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department of Music
presents

Inspired by Bach: In the Studio

UNC Violin Studio

Friday, March 24, 2023

7:30 pm

Moeser Auditorium

Program

From *44 Violin Duos*, Sz. 98
Duo #14, *Pillow Dance*

Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)

UNC Violin Studio

Set 1

Partita No. 2 in D Minor, BWV 1004
V. Ciaccona

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Henry Woodburn, violin

Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005
III. Largo

Bach

Christopher Cooper, violin

IV. Allegro assai

Gilda Ferrie, violin

Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, BWV 1003
I. Grave

Bach

Woody Livesay, violin

II. Fuga

Siana Wong, violin

Set 2

Partita No. 1 in B Minor, BWV 1002
I. Allemanda

Bach

Anant Malpani, violin

Sonata No. 4 for Solo Violin, op. 27 (to Fritz Kreisler)
I. Allemanda

Eugène Ysaÿe
(1858-1931)

Andrew Withrow, violin

T'Filah (Prayer)

Lera Auerbach
(b. 1973)

Sharayu Gugnani, violin

Recitativo and Scherzo, op. 6

Fritz Kreisler
(1875-1962)

Evan Canavan, violin

Sonata No. 5 for Solo Violin, op. 27 (to Matthieu Crickboom)
I. L'Aurore

Ysaÿe

Hannah Lee, violin

Set 3

Partita No. 3 in E Major, BWV 1006
III. Gavotte en Rondeau

Bach

Martha-Grace Jackson, violin

Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005
III. Largo

Bach

Hope Lusby, violin

Partita No. 2 in D Minor, BWV 1004
V. Ciaccona

Bach

Frances Norton, violin

From *44 Violin Duos, Sz. 98*
Duo #43, Pizzicato
Duo #41, Scherzo

Bartók

UNC Violin Studio

Special thanks to Jesse Moorefield and Cat Zachary.

About the Project

Studying the rich tradition of western classical violin, one encounters the *Six Sonatas and Partitas* of J.S. Bach repeatedly throughout the musical journey. Perhaps we hear of them first from teachers, or we encounter them in concert, or we inherit a volume from a sibling or a family friend. These pieces travel with us as we grow and evolve; indeed, these pieces themselves have also traveled through time from their inception around 1720 as western classical music has grown and evolved over the centuries. The pieces are Bach's testament, forming what amounts to a musical covenant between composer and instrument. No piece of solo violin literature in the western tradition has been written since which does not owe some amount of influence to the *Six Sonatas and Partitas* or "*Sei Solo*," as Bach writes on the title page of his manuscript.

Over the past several months, in conjunction with my own "Inspired by Bach" project connecting my works of visual art with my performance of the entire collection of the *Six Sonatas and Partitas*, it has been a joy to share my own discoveries and to discuss interpretive insights with my students in the studio. Not only have we been able to view Bach's works together, but we have also been able to see Bach's influences on other composers and voices.

Notably, the Belgian violinist Eugène Ysaÿe was inspired to write his own Six Solos, dedicating each to a musical friend. This evening's program features a Bach Allemanda paired with an Ysaÿe Allemanda which is dedicated to Fritz Kreisler, another 20th-century violinist and the composer of the Bach-inspired *Recitativo and Scherzo*. Lera Auerbach, a Soviet-born American citizen, has written several works for solo violin including her *Lonely Violin Suite*, perhaps a reference to Bach's "you are alone" implication from the grammatical "error" of his "*Sei Solo*" (as opposed to "*Sei Soli*"). Tonight's selection by Auerbach, *T'filah (Prayer)* is dedicated to the violinist Vadim Gluzman.

Béla Bartók, the famous 20th-century Hungarian composer who was deeply influenced by the symmetry and counterpoint in Bach, wrote *44 Duos for Two Violins* as a gift for a violin teacher to play alongside his students. Also inspired by Bach and Bartók's interest in symmetry and palindromes, tonight's program is bookended not only by several Bartók duets performed by the entire studio, but by performances of Bach's monumental *Ciaccona* as well as the *Largo* from *Sonata No. 3*. Though unusual in a concert setting, hearing multiple performances of the same musical work is a window into the experience of studying western classical music in a serious manner. Far from searching for an "ideal performance," we strive within the UNC violin studio to celebrate our differences in approach and interpretation while being inspired by the same set of inherent truths found in the original manuscript; the meter, counterpoint, harmony, and rhythmic character. Such a diverse array of musical possibilities is a major reason that this music continues to inspire composers, performers, and listeners well into the 21st century.

-Nicholas DiEugenio, March 2023

About the Performers

Set 1

Henry Woodburn is from Raleigh, North Carolina. He is a second-year and is majoring in Math and Music. In his free time he likes to listen to music or knit.

Christopher Cooper is a second-year student from Hillsborough, North Carolina, majoring in music. Outside of music, Chris enjoys spending time outside and hanging out with friends.

Gilda Ferrie is a first year student from Melbourne, Australia. She is majoring in Business and Music with a minor in Journalism, as a Kenan Music Scholar. Outside of violin, Gilda enjoys running, playing tennis and spending time with her cats.

Woody Livesay is a first year student from Raleigh, North Carolina majoring in Business and Music. Outside of music, Woody enjoys spending time outdoors and playing pickleball.

Siana Wong is a third-year student at UNC Chapel Hill majoring in Violin Performance and Biology. She is currently studying with Dr. DiEugenio and is a member of various music ensembles such as the UNC Symphony Orchestra, Baroque ensemble, and a chamber group.

Set 2

Second-year **Anant Malpani** hails from Austin, Texas. He is currently studying Environmental Studies and Music, as a Kenan Music Scholar. He hopes to attend law school after his time at UNC. Anant enjoys spending time with friends and family, sight-reading string quartets, and playing with his dog. An avid chamber musician, he is currently a participant in UNC's chamber ensembles.

Andrew Withrow is a fourth-year from St. Louis, Missouri, studying Chemistry and English. He has played violin since age ten and was a member of several orchestras before coming to Chapel Hill. Fauré and Tchaikovsky are his favorite composers, although he enjoys sight-reading the Bach Double with friends. One of his favorite memories is jumping into a freezing lake after sectionals on a cold January morning (without his violin, of course)!

Sharayu Gugnani is a second-year student at UNC majoring in Music with a focus in Public Policy.

Evan Canavan is a fourth-year student at UNC majoring in Music along with a focus in urban planning.

Hannah Lee, violin, is a fourth-year student from Cary, North Carolina, pursuing a Bachelor of Music and minoring in Sports and Exercise Science. Hannah began her undergraduate degree with Violaine Melançon at McGill University in Montréal and transferred to UNC recently. She has won several competitions such as the Peter Perret Youth Talent Search Concerto Competition, Raleigh String Concerto Competition, MANC String Competition and UNC Symphony Concerto Competition.

Set 3

Martha-Grace Jackson is a second-year student from Charlotte NC double majoring in computer science and music. She currently serves as music ambassador and the president of Heeling in Harmony, a nonprofit which brings music into the community. Outside of violin Martha-Grace enjoys cooking, working out, and spending time with her many siblings.

Hope Lusby is a third-year student from Long Island, New York. She is currently pursuing a double major in English & Music with a minor in Social and Economic Justice. In addition to performing on her violin, Hope is a member of UNC's Undergraduate Honor Court and aspires to work as a music copyright attorney in the future.

Frances Norton is a third-year student at UNC, where she is a Kenan Scholar, Music major, and English major.

Maria Manning has been playing violin since the age of 4 and is double majoring in Neuroscience (pre-med) and Violin Performance at UNC Chapel Hill where she studies with Dr. Nicholas DiEugenio. Previously, she was a recipient of the Myra Jackson Blair Senior Scholarship at the Vanderbilt Blair School of music where she studied with Dr. Christina McGann. In her free time, Maria enjoys rock climbing, hiking, and reading.

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