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2020-21 Season
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2020-21 Digital Programs

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New director takes reins of **Pendulum New Music**

By Olivia Lerwick

Creating room for the unknown, inviting people into places they never thought they could go, using music as a way to create new possibilities for all. These things are imperative for music, especially classical music, to survive. They also happen to be things that Annika Socolofsky, the College of Music's newest composition faculty member, does very well.

An avant-folk vocalist and distinguished composer, Socolofsky has composed and performed with ensembles such as Eighth Blackbird, the Knoxville Symphony, the Mizzou New Music Ensemble and the Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble. She looks forward to bringing what she has learned in these collaborations to her students as the director of pendulum new music.

Socolofsky is also occupied by current events and the needs of her community, and she is constantly looking for ways to strengthen and enrich her students. She remarks that “...[she is] excited to play a part in helping Pendulum grow in a way that expands its support for students of all musical backgrounds on campus.”

Socolofsky’s music draws from many genres and often seeks to re-imagine old traditions in a new light. She loves collaborating with musicians on her projects, giving them creative license with what’s written, as she believes that a piece is reimagined every time it’s performed. Each piece balances the tension between her ideas, the musician’s interpretations, and the desires of whomever requested the work.

“Even if a piece is commissioned, like most of mine now are, I still need to find a way to make it my own,” Socolofsky says. “Physical activities like walking, running and especially singing help me to think through what purpose I want for the piece within the parameters of the project.”

Although her voice is perhaps her main instrument, Socolofsky plays the fiddle, accordion and hardanger d’amore (a scandinavian fiddle with 10 strings). She also played the violin in her high school orchestra, and it was in high school that she was first exposed to the idea of composing. As their final project, her orchestra director, Mr. Greene, asked that all of the seniors either play a concerto, conduct a piece, or write a piece for orchestra.

“I had never even thought about composing as being a possibility for me,” Socolofsky remembers. “That opportunity inspired me to apply for composition in my undergrad and eventually make it my vocation. It’s also a big part of why I want to teach, so that I can mentor students in the way that Mr. Greene mentored me.”

[Click here to read more about Annika Socolofsky.](#)

Master of Music Recital

An Tran, violin

With: Zerek Dodson, piano

2 p.m., Saturday, October 24, 2020

Sonata No. 3 in D minor, “Ballade”, Op. 27

Eugène Ysaÿe (1858-1931)

Blue Curve of the Earth

Tina Davidson (b. 1952)

Zerek Dodson, piano

—Brief Pause—

Sonata in A major, Op. 13

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

- I. Allegro molto
- II. Andante
- III. Allegro vivo
- IV. Allegro quasi presto

Zerek Dodson, piano

Polonaise de Concert in D major, Op. 4

Henryk Wieniawski (1835-1880)

Zerek Dodson, piano

About the performer

Hailing from Lincoln, Nebraska, An Tran began learning violin at the age of 9 as part of the Lincoln Public Schools elementary strings program. She is currently pursuing her Master of Music in Violin Performance at the University of Colorado Boulder with Claude Sim. An graduated with high distinction from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, completing a Bachelor of Arts in Music and Mathematics studying violin with David Neely and viola with Clark Potter and Jonah Sirota. Other former teachers include Anne Nagosky, Mary Roseberry-Brown, and Shirley Harrison.

An currently performs with the Boulder Symphony and CU Symphony. She has previously served as concertmaster of the UNL Symphony, as principal second violin of the UNL Philharmonia, as a substitute violinist with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra, and as an Orchestra Fellow with Texas Music Festival.

During her undergraduate studies, An was a founding member of the Amore String Quartet, studying performance and teaching artistry with the Chiara

String Quartet. In 2018-2019, the Amore String Quartet won the State and Division rounds of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Chamber Music String competition and received honorable mention at the National competition. In the summer of 2018, An studied at Bay View Music Festival's String Quartet Intensive. An has performed in masterclasses with Shanghai Quartet, Miles Hoffman and the American Chamber Players, Stephanie Jeong, Renee Jolles, Attacca Quartet, Diane Nicholeris, Chiara Quartet, Peter Otto, Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, and Tesla Quartet.

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