



College of Music

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

Faculty Tuesday Series

Romance in Italy

Paul Erhard, double bass

with

Edward Dusinberre

Hsing-ay Hsu

David Korevaar

David Requiro

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018

Grusin Music Hall

Imig Music Building

Be engaged. Be inspired. Be here.

Be Boulder.

Program

Duet for Cello and Double Bass in D Major

David Requiro, cello

Gioachino Rossini
(1792–1868)

Duo-ASTA

Hsing-ay Hsu, piano

Teppo Hauta-aho
(b. 1941)

Intermission

Prelude and Tarantella

David Korevaar, piano

Reinhold Glière
(1875–1956)

Introduction and Gavotte

David Korevaar, piano

Giovanni Bottesini
(1821–1889)

Gran Duo for Double Bass and Violin

*Edward Dusinberre, violin
David Korevaar, piano*

Giovanni Bottesini

Program Notes

In 1824, **Giacchino Rossini** was internationally famous for the 34 operas he had already composed. He was the leading force in Italian opera. His “William Tell” was still to come in 1827. On a trip to England, Rossini was commissioned (certainly for a substantial fee) by amateur cellist Sir David Salomons to write the Duet for Cello and Double Bass for Salomons to perform with the famous Italian Bass virtuoso Domenico Dragonetti (1763–1846). Dragonetti had demonstrated to Beethoven the possibilities of the double bass by sight reading one of Beethoven’s cello sonatas. Enthusiastically embracing Dragonetti and his double bass, Beethoven was inspired to feature the double bass in prominent melodies in his Fifth and Ninth Symphonies (the famous recitative that opens the fourth movement).

Rossini’s Duet for Cello and Double Bass remains the most important and widely-performed duo for cello and double bass. Operatic melodies are traded between instruments as the work abounds with interesting colors and textures. The first movement opens dramatically with a suspenseful unison introduction, which then leads to a lively dialogue between cello and bass. The second movement opens with a short melody traded between the cello and double bass, followed by an extended cello melody that reminds one of the beautiful cello melody in the overture to the opera “William Tell”. The third movement is a bouncy celebration.

Teppo Hauta-aho was born in 1941, and lives in Helsinki. He is well-known and much loved in the double bass world all around the world for his spirited jazz bass playing and his many virtuoso compositions for classical double bass. Hauta-aho is also a member of the Finnish National Ballet Orchestra. Duo-ASTA was commissioned by the American String Teacher’s Association, known as ASTA, in 1997. The piece exploits a wide variety of double bass colors from pizzicato, lyrical bowing, double stops, and ponticello (bowing at the bridge bringing out harmonics). With Finnish folk elements, the piece concludes with a joyous celebration in dance.

Reinhold Glière (1875–1956) is a Russian-born composer and taught at the Moscow Conservatory. He was known for his works that incorporated folk music elements from several East European countries. Because of his interest in national styles, he became a very prominent composer in the Soviet musical world. His Prelude and Tarantella together create a challenging but rewarding piece for the double bass, and were composed and first performed by the Russian double bass virtuoso Serge Koussevitsky (conductor of the Boston Symphony from 1924–1949) in 1908. The Prelude has many lyrical passages and beautiful melodies, while the Tarantella showcases many dazzling technical passages and energetic melodies.

Giovanni Bottesini (1821–1889) was an Italian Romantic composer, opera conductor and double bass virtuoso. He was referred to as the “Paganini of the double bass”, and wrote prolifically for the instrument. His music is often operatic and pushes the limits of what can be achieved on the double bass.

His Introduction and Gavotte begins with a heartfelt conversation between solo bass and piano. Even in the introduction the double bass begins to develop initially simple melodies into expressive flourishes that make use of advanced techniques such as harmonics. The Gavotte is both playful virtuosic, interspersing surprising runs of notes pushing the range of the instrument throughout, ending in a truly dazzling display of technical and musical skill.

The Gran Duo is a dramatic piece for solo violin, solo double bass and piano. Originally composed in 1880 for two double basses, the work was soon arranged for double bass and violin by violinist Camillo Sivori, a student of Paganini. In the violin and bass version, both instruments exchange their own takes on virtuosic string techniques and beautiful themes and provides an example of the Italian opera tradition, *Bel Canto*. It is always a conversation between the two players, at times a heartfelt exchange of emotions and at other moments a friendly competition. The bass shows that it can keep up with the impressive passages the violin is known for.

Hsiao-Ling Lin and Friends

our next Faculty Tuesdays concert

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 6

Pianist Hsiao-Ling Lin performs with College of Music friends and colleagues. This program explores the chamber works of nationalism by Grieg, Lutosławski and Dvořák.



CU PERFORMING ARTS
music

Spring 2018 Faculty Tuesdays

American Celebration

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 16
Grusin Music Hall
Dunn/Jennings/McDonald/
Reger/Requiro

Beethoven!

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 23
Grusin Music Hall
David Korevaar

Romance in Italy

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 30
Grusin Music Hall
Dusinberre/Erhard/Hsu/
Korevaar/Requiro

Hsiao-Ling Lin and Friends

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb 6
Grusin Music Hall
Dusinberre/Fejér/Kim/Lin/Rhodes

A Few of My Favorites

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 13
Grusin Music Hall
Elizabeth Farr

The Joy of Strings!

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 20
Grusin Music Hall
CU string faculty and students

Faculty Tuesdays

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 27
Grusin Music Hall
Bird/Korevaar

Beethoven for Piano and Violin

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 6
Grusin Music Hall
Dusinberre/Korevaar

Claude Debussy 100 Years Later

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 13
Grusin Music Hall
Bird/Cooperstock/
Requiro/Terwilliger

España en el Corazón

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 20
Grusin Music Hall
Bird/Chellis/Cremaschi/Garland

Double Standards

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 3
Grusin Music Hall
Case/Robert/Walter

Learn more at colorado.edu/music

Keep in touch! Send us your email address to be added to our music events mailing list by texting **612-888-3403**.

All data is confidential. Phone numbers are not collected nor used.

music + *performance*