

# IOWA

School of Music



## CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

Works by Ida Beam

Distinguished Visiting Professor

Lowell Liebermann

Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 7:30 p.m.

Concert Hall, Voxman Music Building

# PROGRAM

## CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

Works by Ida Beam Distinguished  
Visiting Professor Lowell Liebermann

### **AIR FOR FLUTE AND ORGAN OP.106 (2008)**

Nicole Esposito, *flute*  
Greg Hand, *organ*

### **SONATA FOR CONTRBASS AND PIANO OP.24 (1987)**

- I. Commodo
- II. Adagio
- III. Presto
- IV. Tempo Primo

Volkan Orhon, *contrabass*  
Doreen Lee, *piano*

*INTERMISSION*

**THREE LULLABIES FOR  
TWO PIANOS, OP. 76 (2001)**

Con moto  
Andante  
Lento

Jonathan Bass, *piano*  
Nicklas Hull, *piano*

**TRIO NO.3 FOR VIOLIN,  
CELLO, AND PIANO  
OP.122 (2012)**

Luis Infante Hernandez, *violin*  
Elizabeth Kerr, *cello*  
Shengbo Shi, *piano*

# TRIO FOR FLUTE, ALTO SAXOPHONE, AND PIANO OP.137 (2020)

- I. Allegro
- II. Andante
- III. Allegro

Nicole Esposito, *flute*  
Kenneth Tse, *alto saxophone*  
Casey Dierlam Tse, *piano*

# ABOUT THE COMPOSER



## LOWELL LIEBERMANN

At once unabashedly romantic and modern, American composer Lowell Liebermann is internationally recognized as an artist of uncommon profundity and popularity. Time Magazine proclaimed: “Now brazen and glittering, now radiantly visionary...the work of a composer unafraid of grand gestures and openhearted lyricism.”

Mr. Liebermann has written more than one hundred forty works in all genres, several of which have gone on to become standard repertoire for their instruments. He has composed four symphonies, a Concerto for Orchestra, three piano concertos, and concertos for many other

instruments. His works have been premiered by major orchestras, including the Dallas Symphony, the National Symphony, and the New York Philharmonic. His Sonata for Flute and Piano and Gargoyles for piano are among the most popular contemporary works for their instruments, regularly included in recital and competition programs. His full-length ballet Frankenstein, co-commissioned by London's Royal Ballet and the San Francisco Ballet, has been released on Blu-Ray and DVD. Mr. Liebermann has written two full-length operas, both enthusiastically received at their premieres: The Picture of Dorian Gray, the first American opera commissioned by and premiered in 1995 by l'Opéra de Monte-Carlo, and Miss Lonelyhearts, after the novel by Nathanael West, for the Juilliard School's 100th anniversary in 2005.

A prolific pianist both live and in recording, Mr. Liebermann has given the world premieres of his own solo piano works as well as works by his fellow composers Ned Rorem and William Bolcom. In 2021, the Steinway label released an CD of works by Schubert, Liszt, Kabellâ, Busoni, and his own composition. A year later, Steinway sponsored a second solo piano album by Mr. Liebermann, The Devil's Lyre, featuring music of contemporary British composer David Hackbridge Johnson.

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

## NICOLE ESPOSITO

A charismatic and versatile flutist, Nicole Esposito is the flute professor and head of the woodwind area at The University of Iowa School of Music. A renowned pedagogue, she is the recipient of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Collegiate Teaching Award and International Teaching Engagement Award, and also serves as a Permanent Visiting Professor at the University of Chile. Professor Esposito has achieved a career as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician on an international level having been featured across the United States, Europe, Central and South America and Asia and is a sought-after master teacher at festivals, universities and conservatories around the world. Her students current and former students are also active internationally as major competition prize winners, orchestral musicians, administrators, performers and teachers. Professor Esposito holds degrees from Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Michigan. She has published articles on [Banddirector.com](http://Banddirector.com), *The Flutist Quarterly*, *Flute Focus* and *Flute Talk Magazines*

and can be heard on the Albany Records, MSR Classics and Con Brio Recordings labels. Esposito's most recent recordings include "Dancing in Dreams" and "Intersections" with Turkish harpist Çagatay Akyol, both released on MSR Classics. Her primary flute teachers include Jeanne Baxtresser, Amy Porter, Marianne Gedigian, Jennifer Steele, and Catherine Payne, with additional study with Mark Sparks, Alberto Almarza, and Doriot Anthony Dwyer. Nicole Esposito is Miyazawa Flutes, Burkart Piccolo, and LefreQue Performing Artist.

## **GREG HAND**

Greg Hand is a Professor of Organ at the University of Iowa School of Music. For more information about Hand go to [music.uiowa.edu/people/gregory-hand](http://music.uiowa.edu/people/gregory-hand).

## **VOLKAN ORHON**

Acclaimed for his musicality and virtuosity, Orhon has established himself among the leading double bassists of his generation. He was a finalist and prizewinner in the Concert Artists Guild Solo Competition in New York City. He was the co-first-place winner of the In-

ternational Society of Bassists Solo Competition. Additionally, he distinguished himself as the first double bass player ever to win the grand prize overall and first prize for double bass at the American String Teacher's Association Solo Competition.

Orhon has performed with internationally recognized musicians, including Gary Karr, Fazil Say, JACK, Emerson, Tokyo Quartets, and has performed recitals and appeared as a soloist with orchestras around the world.

As an orchestra musician, he served as principal bass in the Orchestra Iowa and performed with the Detroit Symphony, Hartford Symphony, and Connecticut Opera Orchestras.

Orhon has recorded CDs under the Naxos, Albany, and Centaur labels. Most recently, he recorded the Double Bass Concerto with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London, a work written for him by composer David Gompper.

As a pedagogue, Orhon has given workshops across the United States and abroad, including bass conferences in Italy, Germany, France, and Brazil. Master classes at Paris Conservatory, Norwegian Academy of Music, Suzuki Association of the Americas, American String

Teachers Association, International Society of Bassists Conferences, Arizona State University, University of Michigan, Butler University, Northwestern University, and North Carolina School of the Arts.

Born and raised in Turkey, he spent much of his youth traveling throughout Europe. After graduating from the Ankara State Conservatory, studying with Tahir Sümer, he became a member of the Ankara Presidential Symphony Orchestra. Orhon came to the United States to continue his studies with Gary Karr.

Orhon is currently the professor of double bass and the head of the string area at the University of Iowa.

## **DOREEN LEE**

Doreen Lee is Visiting Assistant Professor of Collaborative Piano at the University of Iowa. She has performed with notable artists such as violist Geraldine Walther, hornist Michael Thornton, flutists Christina Jennings and Katherine Kemler, and cellist Johannes Moser, among others. She is also the pianist of the du Toit/Lee Duo, formed in collaboration with flutist Cobus du Toit. The duo made their inter-

national debut in the summer of 2019 at the Australian Flute Festival, hosted at the Sydney Conservatory of Music. She was a featured soloist for the Mobile Symphony Orchestra's concert cycle of Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals*. Doreen performed as guest faculty and served as guest clinician for the Orvieto Musica festival hosted in Orvieto, Italy in 2021 and 2022. In addition to her national and international performances, Doreen is also featured on Jacques Castérède's *Complete Flute Works*, a three CD set released by Naxos Records in 2019 and 2020.

Doreen received her Doctorate of Musical Arts in Collaborative Piano at the University of Colorado Boulder, studying with Margaret McDonald and Alexandra Nguyen. She specialized in solo piano performance under the tutelage of Walter Ponce at the University of California Los Angeles, and went on to earn her Masters in Music at the Peabody Institute with Benjamin Pasternack. Doreen has participated in various music festivals including the Bowdoin International Music Festival, Aspen Music Festival and School, and the Music Academy of the West.

Prior to joining the faculty at the University of

Iowa, Doreen served as Assistant Professor of Collaborative Piano and Piano at the University of South Alabama, Adjunct Instructor of Collaborative Piano at Colorado State University, as well as Lecturer of Collaborative Piano at the University of Colorado Boulder.

## **KENNETH TSE**

Kenneth Tse is internationally acclaimed as one of the world's leading classical saxophonists, celebrated for his dazzling virtuosity, luminous tone, and profound artistry. He first captured global attention in 1996 after winning both the New York Artists International Award and The Alex Award from the National Alliance for Excellence. His Carnegie Hall debut that year prompted The New York Times to hail him as "a young virtuoso." Since then, Tse has established a commanding international presence, performing as a soloist on five continents with major ensembles such as the Strasbourg Philharmonic, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, Thailand Philharmonic, and the United States Navy Band.

A prolific recording artist, Tse has released twenty-three albums across a broad spectrum

of repertoire, praised for their “supremely elegant tone” and “sheer virtuosity.” More than forty new works have been written for him by distinguished composers worldwide, a testament to his deep impact on the instrument’s repertoire. His most recent commission, a saxophone concerto by the famed Lowell Liebermann, was premiered in 2025.

As a passionate educator and clinician, Tse has shared his expertise at foremost conservatories such as the Paris Conservatory, the Tchaikovsky Moscow State Conservatory, and the Fryderyk Chopin Institute in Warsaw. Awarded the title of the University of Iowa Distinguished Chair in 2024, he leads a program recognized for excellence and innovation.

Equally devoted to advancing the global saxophone community, Tse founded the Hong Kong International Saxophone Symposium in 2009 and the Hong Kong International Saxophone Society, which is a vital saxophone hub in Asia. He is also the first saxophonist to hold concurrent presidencies of both the North American Saxophone Alliance and the International Saxophone Committee, underscoring his stature as performer, educator, and visionary leader.

# CASEY DIERLAM TSE

Highly in demand as a collaborative pianist, Casey Dierlam Tse has done hundreds of recitals, projects, and recordings with instrumentalists throughout North and South America, Europe, and Asia. With over 600 chamber pieces in her repertoire, she regularly performs in concerts at international music festivals and conferences. An avid performer of contemporary music, she is devoted to working with, recording, and promoting the music of rising young composers, including Kevin Day, Josh Trentadue, Viet Cuong, Joel Love, Karalyn Schubring et. Al.

No stranger to the saxophone world and an ardent performer of its repertoire, Casey has worked with renowned international artists such as Arno Bornkamp (NL), Claude Delangle (FR), Asya Fateyeva (DE), Jean-Yves Fourmeau (FR), Paweł Gusnar (PL), Branford Marsalis (US), Gerard McChrystal (UK), Debra RNikita Zimin (RU) and as duo partner with husband Kenneth Tse. Recent appearances include the World Saxophone Congress in Croatia, The Hong Kong Saxophone Symposium, the Asia Saxophone Congress in China,

the Liceux Saxophone Festival in Barcelona, the Zurich Saxfest in Switzerland, and the Lericci Music Festival in Italy, among others. She serves as the collaborative piano coordinator for the North American Saxophone Alliance conference, and regularly appears at the United States Navy Band International Saxophone Symposium, the Single Reed Summit, MTNA competitions, NASA conferences, and many other competitions in cities across the United States. She has served as pianist for the American Saxophone Academy and is currently hired as the official pianist for the Yamaha Young Performing Artist Award Weekend. Other notable collaborations include Charles Villarrubia, Sergio Carolino, Alexandra Nowakowski, Adam Frey, and David Shea, to name a few.

Since her orchestral debut at age 12, Casey has garnered many awards as a soloist in prestigious competitions, including the Rose Petroff College Piano Competition, the St. Louis Artist Presentation Society, The New Orleans International Piano Competition and the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano competition. She has performed as soloist at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and Bösendorfer Hall in Vienna, Austria. Her

degrees in piano performance at Indiana State University (William Hughes) and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Timothy Ehlen) were supplemented by her studies with pianist and pedagogue Zitta Zohar in New York City.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

For the most current listing of concerts, recitals, and other School of Music events, visit the events calendar.

**EVENTS CALENDAR** 