

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®

presents

Piano4-té

featuring

**Gabriel Dobner
Lori Piitz
Eric Ruple
Paulo Steinberg**

with

**JMU Percussion Ensemble
Casey Cangelosi, *director***

Sam Suggs, *double bass*

Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 8 pm
Concert Hall

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

SEASON SPONSOR
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The 2021-2022 Masterpiece Season is sponsored
by Kathy Moran Wealth Group.

Program

Prelude to *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* Richard Wagner/Jason Haney

Hungarian Dances Johannes Brahms

2. Allegro non assai - Vivo - Allegro non assai
4. Poco sostenuto - Vivace - Molto Allegro - Poco sostenuto - Vivace
11. Poco Andante
9. Allegro non troppo - Poco sostenuto - Allegro non troppo
19. Allegretto - Più presto - Allegretto
5. Allegro - Vivace - Allegro

Scaramouche Darius Milhaud

1. Vif
2. Modéré
3. Brasileira

Lori Piütz, Gabriel Dobner

Fantasy on Themes from Bizet's *Carmen* Mack Wilberg

15-Minute Intermission

From *Ballet Suite* Samuel Barber

4. Two-step
3. Pas de deux
5. Hesitation Tango

Lori Piütz, Gabriel Dobner

Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* Leonard Bernstein/Graham Hall

Eric Ruple, Paulo Steinberg
JMU Percussion Ensemble
Sam Suggs, double bass

Masks are required.
Please turn off all pagers, cell phones, personal computers,
and any other electronic devices.

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of this production is strictly prohibited
in adherence with Federal copyright laws.

Bios

Gabriel Dobner has played for such notable singers as Kevin McMillan, Gerhard Siegel, Rod Gilfry, Cornelia Kallisch and René Kollo. He has recorded for Haenssler Classic and MDG in Germany, and Ottavo in Holland. Following his first CD recording with mezzo-soprano Cornelia Kallisch for MDG, Mr. Dobner was referred to as a “master among Lieder pianists” in a *BBC Music Magazine* review. Performances recorded for radio broadcast include those for the Bavarian State Radio, West German Radio, North German Radio, Budapest Radio in Hungary, Nippon Broadcasting Corporation in Japan, and Saint Paul Sunday in the U.S. He has performed in many of the world’s leading venues including those in Vienna, Dresden, Hamburg, Munich, Frankfurt, Cologne, Zürich, Budapest, Barcelona, Tokyo, Nagoya and Seoul. Mr. Dobner joined the piano faculty at JMU in 2001 and has also been on the faculty of AIMS (American Institute of Musical Studies) in Graz, Austria, since 2017.

Steinway Artist Eric Ruple is on the piano faculty at JMU. He enjoys an active career as a solo and chamber musician, which includes performances at the Kennedy Center in D.C. and Steinway Hall in New York. Dr. Ruple is a pianist for the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, which includes the principal keyboard role in the *Harry Potter*TM Film Concert Series. He was featured in Bernstein’s *Prelude, Fugue and Riffs* with the VSO Jazz Ensemble. His recording *Musica Incognita* with hornist Ian Zook has earned unanimous positive reviews from several national and international publications; he is currently working on another recording project with violinist Maureen Yuen. Dr. Ruple is president of the Shenandoah Valley/JMU Chapter of the American Liszt Society and has been a regular adjudicator in Hong Kong. In 2019–2020, he served as interim director for the JMU School of Music. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Michigan.

Paulo Steinberg has performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist across the U.S., Canada, South America and Europe. During his sabbatical leave in 2017, he undertook a European recital tour stretching from the U.K. to Latvia that included Ireland, Scotland, Luxembourg, Austria, Germany and Sweden. He holds piano performance degrees from Conservatório Carlos Gomes, Universidade de São Paulo, Arizona State University (M.M) and Indiana University (D.M.). Dr. Steinberg often serves as an adjudicator in competitions, and offers master classes, lectures, workshops and performances in the U.S. and abroad. His summers regularly include teaching at the Saarbürg Chamber Music Festival in Germany and traveling around Europe, Brazil and Canada. His research interests focus on piano technique and Brazilian music. Four CD albums have been released recently: *The Recital Clarinetist* in collaboration with clarinetist Dr. Janice Minor; *Duos* in collaboration with clarinetist Dr. Sarunas Jankauskas; *Time, Place, Spirit* in collaboration with flutist Dr. Beth Chandler; and his solo CD album *Alma Brasileira*. paulosteinberg.com Instagram: @paulosteinberg

Lori Piitz enjoys an exciting musical life that includes such diverse opportunities as a solo recital at Steinway Hall in New York City, a four-hand recital at the Kennedy Center, and performing in a German opera house dressed as a baby chick! She has performed at music festivals in the U.S. and abroad, including festivals of the American Liszt Society, the Schleswig-Holstein Festival in Germany, and the Music & Beyond Festival and Festival of the Sound in Canada. Ms. Piitz was recently the piano soloist in Gershwin’s *Variations on “I Got Rhythm”* for piano and orchestra at the Staunton Music Festival. Her interest in pianist health led to membership in PAMA (Performing Arts Medicine Association) and studies in injury-preventive piano technique with Dr. Barbara Lister-Sink. In 2002, Ms. Piitz joined the piano faculty at JMU where she works with talented piano students and teaches graduate courses in pedagogy, piano literature and “Preparing for the Job Market.”

JMU Percussion Ensemble

Casey Cangelosi, *director*

Blaze Benavides
Ben Millesen
Aaron Soforenko
Kohl Corrigan
Brandon Lee

Ryan Carlisle
Miles Cingolani
Shane Roderick
Michael Dolese
Will Alderman

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- I Wrote That One, Too... An Evening with Steve Dorff* Jan. 22
The Hit Songs and the Stories Behind Them
- Ballet Hispánico Jan. 28–29

FEBRUARY

- Gina Chavez Feb. 4
- Amernet String Quartet Feb. 8
With special guest Heather Coltman, *piano*
- The Turn of the Screw* featuring the JMU Opera Theater Feb. 11–12
Music by Benjamin Britten
Libretto by Myfanwy Piper
- A Tribute to Aretha Franklin - The Queen of Soul* Feb. 17
With Damien Sneed and Valerie Simpson
- Diane Phoenix-Neal, *viola* | Paulo Steinberg, *piano* Feb. 18
- Wanchi, *violin* | Lori Piitz, *piano* Feb. 24

MARCH

- JMU Percussion Ensemble Mar. 2
- Calefax Reed Quintet Mar. 10
- Sue Barber, *bassoon* | Lori Piitz, *piano* Mar. 29
- Beth Chandler Cahill, *flute* | Paulo Steinberg, *piano* Mar. 30
- Sam Suggs, *double bass* Mar. 31

For tickets and further information, visit www.jmuforbescenter.com or call the Forbes Center Box Office at (540) 568-7000.