

2017 Feedback

- **Gregory Wanamaker (Professor of Composition, Crane School of Music):** *"What a blast! This was the most smoothly run and most organized Composers' Symposium I have attended in quite a while. The best thing about this was the fact that the schedule was not cramped with a thousand three-hour concerts, but encouraged composer interaction through the presentations, and nice meal breaks. I made a bucket of new friends (including you two!) and found myself as engaged with the conversations as I was with the excellent performances by the students, faculty, and guests at UNM. I would most sincerely welcome the opportunity to return! Congratulations to you and all of your colleagues on such a terrific few days!"*
- **Emilie LeBel (Assistant Professor at the University of Montana):** *"Thank you for a wonderful week at UNM. It was a very special symposium, and I am so grateful for all the work you put into making it such a success."*
- **Arthur Gottschalk (Professor of Music Composition, Shepherd School of Music, Rice University):** *"Thanks for having me; I very much enjoyed getting to know you and your colleagues, as well as your university and the town of Albuquerque. I found it all to be quite delightful. As I told you when I was there, I thought that the steps you took in planning and designing the conference were ideal - just the right number of concerts and each at just the right length. To that I'd like to commend you for making time available for the attendees to get to know each other a bit more formally, via your composer presentations."*
- **Moshe Shulman (Composer):** *"It was a complete pleasure to be in Albuquerque and receive your warm welcoming and helping approach (like rehearsing in your home). I miss it already!"*
- **Alejandro Rutty (Associate Professor of Music at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro):** *"Please let me thank you both for the spectacular job you did in putting together the Robb Composers' Symposium. The organization was really perfect and shiny, and the curatorial aspect of it was really great; it was just truly interesting to listen to the music of the composers you brought in (the performances were solid, too!). I am definitely going to copy the concept of "everyone gets a 15 minute presentation", as it spreads out every composer's involvement with the festival and gets people two chances to hear about each other's work. In addition, the Abe Frank quartet did really a great job with my piece; they (and their teacher) should be proud. But what really made me return home with a happy smile was witnessing how the whole operation was run with warmth and kindness, which set the tone for everyone involved. I loved meeting you all, and I trust that we will meet again, be it in Albuquerque, Greensboro, or wherever our paths cross next."*
- **Patrice Repar (Associate Professor, Univ. of New Mexico):** *"Congratulations on a dynamic and interesting Composers' Symposium. It is impossible to thank you for the mountain of energy it takes to pull off an event like that."*
- **Peter Lieuwen (Professor of Music and Composer-in-Residence in the Department of Performance Studies at Texas A&M University):** *"Thank you for inviting me to this year's symposium. It is always a pleasure to hear interesting new music, see old friends, and meet new ones. One of the very good aspects of the symposium is the many musical styles that are presented. This makes for diverse, entertaining and inspiring concerts. I have attended several of the Robb symposia over the years and have always come away with a new idea or approach to compositional situations as a result. Congratulations on another great event!"*
- **David Wilde (New Mexican Poet):** *"I was overwhelmed by the number and quality of composers this year including the variety of species of younger and inspired minds in attendance. Thank you so much for this attention to the clarity and articulated ideas which was so evident this year. I feel as though there was a*

sea change in direction or something intangible that I can't quite put my finger on what it was! I felt much more at home for some reason."

- **Roy Magnuson (Illinois State University):** *"Thank you! It was a tremendous opportunity, and experience. As someone who is running a similar festival (though with nowhere NEAR as many performances...), I understand the complexities and challenges. It all came off beautifully. It was something I will not soon forget!"*
- **Mark Dal Porto (Professor of Music, Eastern New Mexico University):** *"I was honored to have been a part of this year's J.D. Robb Composers' Symposium. Like I had mentioned earlier (in Facebook), this was an extremely well organized symposium with a highly varied menu of presentations, concerts, and events that were just the right length. It was also most enjoyable to be able to meet, converse, and share ideas with so many different composers who attended. As a result, this symposium was quite a stimulating, creative, and enriching environment for us all! Thank you so much for hosting an outstanding J.D. Robb Composers' Symposium at UNM this year!"*
- **Alexander Schwarzkopf (Composer, Pianist):** *"This was an excellent opportunity. Presenting my music and meeting and mingling with so many wonderful artists and musicians from the USA and abroad was inspiring. The energy and positivity was radiant and made for an extraordinary learning environment. What a pleasure to hear all of the lectures and performances (those I could attend) as every one of them was outstanding. Thank you to you and Eva, and the Robb Trust for an incredible experience."*
- **Stanley Friedmann (Composer)** *"The Symposium was a totally positive experience for me. The performance of my Chamber Concerto was first-rate. I deeply appreciate all the players' dedication, professionalism and enthusiasm, as well as the cordiality you and the other organizers extended to me."*
- **Jennifer Lau (Flutist and Lecturer, University of New Mexico):** *Thank you for putting together such a fantastic symposium! I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to perform and to work with the composers. I'm sure there was a ton of work happening behind the scenes, but from my perspective everything ran calmly and smoothly.*
- **Zvonimir Nagy (Assistant Professor of Music, Duquesne University):** *Everything was fantastic and well organized -- one of the most enjoyable symposia I've attended! Also very friendly and professional.*
- **Victoria Malawey (Associate Professor and Chair of the Music Dept., Macalaster College):** *I must apologize for my belated reply. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience at the symposium. I was particularly impressed with high caliber of musicianship. The concerts were truly excellent! Overall I was impressed with how smoothly and professionally the symposium was handled. Thanks again for a great experience!*