

MUSIC FROM THE AMERICAS CONCERT SERIES
and
UNM JOHN DONALD ROBB MUSICAL TRUST
FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL JOHN DONALD ROBB COMPOSERS' SYMPOSIUM

present

UNM Student Compositions

performed by

Splinter Reeds

UNM Center for the Arts

Keller Hall

Friday, March 24, 2023

7:30pm



PROGRAM

PentaClash (2023)	Jude Harb
Amalgamation (2023)	Doug Falk
Eco IV (2023)	Carlos Arellano
Maverick (2022)	Thomas Ropp
Atok (2023)	Axel Retif
Ripples of Luminescence, Both Delectable and Foetid (2023)	Christopher Orphal



Splinter Reeds | splinterreeds.com

Kyle Bruckmann *oboe*, Bill Kalinkos *clarinet*

Nicki Roman *saxophone*, Jeff Anderle *bass clarinet*, Dana Jessen *bassoon*

COMPOSER BIOGRAPHIES

Jude Harb is an Albuquerque-based composer, arranger, singer, and pianist who has written pieces for vocal ensemble, piano, guitar, and new music groups. At the University of New Mexico, he has performed with the UNM Concert Choir led by Dr. David Edmonds and the UNM Opera led by Dr. Kristin Ditlow (“Dido and Aeneas” Signor Deluso). He has also performed with Quintessence Choral Artists during their Sixth Annual Quintessence Summer Choral Festival, as well as Opera Southwest for their New Year’s Eve Gala 2021. He has also volunteered with UNM Honors Pathmakers, which he still plans to volunteer with in the fall. Last season, he was a backstage chorus member for Opera Southwest’s production of “Pelleas et Mélisandre” and played the role of Sid in UNM Opera’s production of “Albert Herring”. Outside of music, he enjoys reading, writing, playing video games, and spending time with friends and family.

Doug Falk is a trumpeter/bassist, improviser, and composer living in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His musical aesthetic is unified despite its division into three distinct fields: composition, improvisation, and songwriting. Whether composing for various ensembles, improvising on trumpet or double bass, or singing/rapping, his goals are: to tell a story (often literally accompanying instrumental music with a program), to explore the nebulous boundaries between emotional harmonies, and/or to create musical slapstick.

Carlos Arellano has been awarded commissions, grants, and prizes by several institutions such as the National Fund for Culture and Arts of Mexico, and the National Institute of the Arts of Mexico. His music has been performed at important venues in Chile, Spain, Switzerland, Mexico, and the US, by renowned performers such as the CÉPROMUSIC Ensemble, Orquesta de Música Contemporánea del Conservatorio, Orquesta Marga Marga, Román Bayani, and Ángel Flores. Carlos graduated with honors in composition and guitar performance from the National Conservatory of Music of Mexico, and is currently pursuing a master’s degree in theory and composition at the University of New Mexico.

Thomas Ropp is an award-winning composer, arranger, and multi-instrumentalist hailing from South Dakota. After finishing his studies at Interlochen, he is now pursuing degrees in Music Performance, Music Theory and Composition, and Film and Digital Media Arts at the University of New Mexico. Throughout high school he worked alongside the resident composer of the South Dakota Symphony to write several works including a symphony (The Hunt), and a woodwind quintet (Eclipse). He has also written for jazz band, concert band, choir, brass ensemble, and many more, but his primary focus is found in film scoring. Drawing from a diverse musical background, Thomas aims to create wide pieces that encompass a variety of emotions and stories.

Axel Retif’s music is characterized by being electric, dynamic, and rough, creating sound worlds from a single idea, which is deployed with an organic temporality, paradoxically patient and explosive at the same time. His music has been played in various national and international festivals, such as Contemporary Music Project (USA), *Festival Internacional Cervantino* (Mexico), *Foro Internacional de Música Nueva Manuel Enríquez* (Mexico), June in Buffalo (USA), *Festival Atemporánea* (Argentina), and *Encuentro de Compositores e Intérpretes - ECI* (Argentina). His music has been performed by important artists around the world. He has released two monographic EP albums called *Sincronías* (2021), *House of Flies* (2022), and one collective album called *Ecos de Viaje - Stefano Scodanibbio recording* by Mushamukas *Ensamble de Contrabajos*, all of them under the label Tagma Records.

Christopher Orphal is an M.M. student at the University of New Mexico, focusing on Music Theory and Composition. He is an active composer of new music, whose compositions for a variety of instrumental combinations often include explorations of new or novel tonal colors and harmonies through extended instrumental techniques and microtones. Christopher currently holds the John Donald Robb Graduate Music Assistantship, and through this program works with the John Donald Robb Archives at the UNM Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections (CSWR) and assists with production of the annual John Donald Robb Composer’s Symposium, ¡Música del Corazón, and the Robb Commission.

JOIN US FOR THE FINAL 2023 COMPOSERS’ SYMPOSIUM EVENT

free admission

Monday March 27 9:00am Sky Macklay Composition Masterclass *CFA IIII*

Learn more: robbtrust.org | Scan the QR code below for a full 2023 Composers’ Symposium program.

