Performances of New Music I

Mark Dal Porto • Concert Manager

Thursday, October 27, 2016
7:30 p.m.
Eldorado Hotel & Spa
Grand Ballroom A
Santa Fe, New Mexico
You [unfolding] …………………………………. Mark Kilstrofte (Furman University)
Leslie Nash, cello

You [unfolding] is a one movement work comprising three contrasting sections. It reflects, through form and process, the richness of discovering and understanding another person at deeper and deeper levels—deliberately, yet imperceptibly—as if through an extended correspondence.

The opening features a series of statements in expanding variations form in which each subsequent phrase can be heard as an elaboration and amplification of the former. In other words, each new phrase not only embellishes what has been played previously, but also introduces new structural detail. In this way the variations increase in length and complexity, moving from the merely emblematic towards more comprehensive representations.

In contrast to the slow, improvisatory character of the first section, the central portion of the work is suddenly brisk and terse, replete with syncopation. Here the notion of unfolding is depicted by ever-widening intervallic wedges and ever-contracting rhythmic cells which propel the piece to an abrupt, but lingering, climax. On the heels of this suspended caesura the piece reclaims the tempo and character of the beginning. Here, however, each statement is condensed or abridged (rather than elaborated on) as the work makes its way to what seems its inevitable conclusion.

You [unfolding] is dedicated to ‘cellist Leslie Nash, who is now married to the composer.

Romance ………………………………… Mark Dal Porto (Eastern New Mexico University)
Tracy A. Carr, oboe
Mark Dal Porto, piano

Romance for oboe and piano is dedicated to my beloved wife who inspired the deepest feelings behind every note found in this piece.

Two Lost Loves …………………… Andrew Hannon (Appalachian State University)
Timothy Skinner, clarinet

This composition was created with the help of many individuals. Volunteers left messages at a Google Voice account setup for this composition. These messages were then used as source material for the vocal samples. While the entire story of the two primary messages in this piece is largely unknown, they both carry a thread of love, loss, and remorse. The end result is an intimate glimpse into the contributor’s emotional state during the voicemail.

Interplay for Sax, Cello and Piano …….. Arthur Joseph Houle (Colorado Mesa University)
Jun Watabe, alto saxophone
Kristen Yeon-Ji Yun, cello
Arthur Joseph Houle, piano

A rather technically daunting solo piano transcription was performed on one occasion; however, some would say that incarnation lacks “sax appeal.” Another early version — for sax, double bass and piano — was performed live on KUT–Austin’s renowned radio program, “Eklektikos.” However, the duo scoring (sax and piano) has, until now, been the most frequently played version.

Tonight’s performance is the premiere of the work’s most recent casting for sax, cello and piano. This revised and somewhat expanded final transcription has never before been played. The new cello part highlights much of the work’s motivic development and otherwise obscured melodic lines; the cello’s frequent use of pizzicato mimics the standard jazz upright bass. Built on simple motives, this composition uses shifting meters (principally 7/8) and frequent modulations to propel its restless driving energy. Its jazzy character allows for some degree of improvisatory license. Generally cheerful, the work mellows towards the end, allowing the pianist a retrospective solo. After this interlude, a brief “feint” to its original upbeat mood interrupts the piece’s wistful conclusion in B Major.

The work (both duo and trio instrumentations) is slated for publication in 2016.
Where the Cold Desert Wind Blows ……. Dominic Dousa (University of Texas-El Paso)
Stephen Nordstrom, viola
Nayeli Dousa, piano

Where the Cold Desert Wind Blows is part of a suite that includes pieces inspired by my travels in the American Southwest. The main theme of the piece came to me after a trip to Fort Selden in the Rio Grande Valley of southern New Mexico on a clear, but blustery winter late afternoon. As I walked the ruins of the fort, the thoughts of the soldiers (some of whom were African Americans serving in the years following the Civil War) and native peoples who valiantly lived in this untamed land long ago, along with the invigorating winter wind, helped to shape this experience. Through this piece I hope to capture the character evoked by these thoughts.

Admonition ……………… Deborah H. Kavasch (California State University–Stanislaus)
Deborah H. Kavasch, soprano
prerecorded voices

My poet-collaborator, Linda Bunney-Sarhad, wrote this poem inspired by the writings of Hildegard von Bingen. The imagery suggested to me an original setting for solo soprano and chorus, with the final stanza of the poem underlaid with music derived from Hildegard's Caritas abundat. The prerecorded voices are sampled from my own voice and altered to varying pitch levels to form an SATB “mixed” chorus using both traditional singing plus various extended vocal techniques manipulated through Logic Pro 9. The prerecorded accompaniment was engineered by composer John Marvin.

The poet provided the following notes and text:

Hildegard: “These are some of his [the Devil’s] characteristics I recognize; for example, wherever he appears, he threatens my identity. He threatens my authority to act, to speak, to heal, to sing. My role becomes obscure, my responsibilities vague but overwhelming. There is nothing I am actually empowered to do…."

Listen, daughter: we see light by the dark,
wholeness by scarring, and life by death.
With the darkness of all duty upon you,
Do not fear to let your one candle shine.

Then speak what you see,
do what is next,
and sing the song you have.
Ignore the growling chaos in the air.

Find your pitch, then hear:
Your one true note brings harmony.
And the deeper the night the brighter your one light shines.
**Lengua No Más** .......................... **Keith Dippre (Methodist University)**  
Keith Dippre, accordion  
Scott Marosek, piano

While recently visiting the west coast, I ventured upon a highly recommended Mexican restaurant in Pacoima, California. I instinctively asked for lengua (tongue) tacos, as that is generally a delectable dish to be found in such locales. My timing was not the best this time around, however, as it was the day before Christmas. My waitress made it known to me that I had been effectively beaten to the punch this day—“No hay más lengua.”

This piece contrasts the percussive drive of the piano against the expressive and blustery wind of the accordion. Although much of the piece is tonal, there is a section that features improvisation with tone clusters, bellows shaking (an old accordion stand by), and rather open-ended glissandi. On the whole, Lengua—No Más is an amalgam of tango, funk, and a smattering of Bulgarian rhythm.

**Tesla** .......................... **Brice Johnson (Tempe, Arizona)**  
Tim Perry, percussion

Nikola Tesla (1856–1943) was one of the most important inventors of the twentieth centuries. His work with electricity, specifically the alternating current delivery system, X-Ray, and Radio waves helped to create the world that we take for granted every day. The son of a Serbian Orthodox priest, he came to America in 1884 to work for the great inventor Thomas Edison. Unfortunately, the two men would come to despise each other and were in a state of continual competition. Tesla came in and out of great wealth from his inventions over his life, but his successes were often shadowed by his “Mad Scientist” within.

Instead of Tesla’s electrical currents, this work explores alternating sonic currents. In today’s world, the 60 Hz hum of industrialism is a constant in our lives. To emulate this, deep electronic drones produce atmospheric elements, while two drums oscillate in and out of phase to create a continuous stream of sonic information. This constant flow of sound, paired with sporadic and often “random” bursts of color, gives this piece its high voltage disposition.
Dal Porto, Mark
Dr. Mark Dal Porto has had his works performed by such ensembles as the Czech Philharmonic, Kiev Philharmonic, Moravian Philharmonic, Kühn Choir (Prague), Kronos String Quartet, Boston Metro Opera, and many University Orchestra and Wind Ensembles. His recorded works available on CD include Galactica for Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Song of Eternity for Orchestra, Song of the Night for Oboe, Voice and Piano, Spring, the Sweet Spring for Mixed Choir and Piano, and When Your Song Rang Out to Me for Mixed Choir and Piano. His many commissions include those from the Orchestra of Southern Utah, the College Orchestra Directors Association, the Santa Fe Community Orchestra, and the Pemigewasset Choral Society of New Hampshire.

Dal Porto serves on the faculty of Eastern New Mexico University as professor of music and coordinator of Music Theory and Composition and can be seen as a frequent guest composer and conductor. A former student of Donald Grantham, Dal Porto received degrees from California State University, Sacramento (B.A. Piano Performance, M.A. Theory/Composition), and the University of Texas at Austin (D.M.A. Composition). His past teaching assignments have included serving on the faculty at Texas State University, Northern State University, and Texas Woman's University.

In 2015, Dal Porto was awarded certificates of excellence in band, choral, and orchestral composition from The American Prize organization. He was also awarded first prize (from over 140 entries around the world) in the CODA (College Orchestra Director's Association) 2013 International Composition Contest for his orchestral work Song of Eternity.

Dippre, Keith
Dr. Keith Dippre was born in Ancon, Panama in 1960. He received his undergraduate degree from Azusa Pacific University in California and his M.A. from California State University at Los Angeles. In 2001 he completed his D.M.A. in composition at The Ohio State University. His principal teachers were Dr. Phil Shackleton, Dr. Byong-kon Kim, and Dr. Jan Radzynski.

He is currently the Department Chairman and Professor of Music at Methodist University, teaching such courses as music theory, orchestration, and composition. Dr. Dippre also received a Regional Artist Project Grant from the Arts Council of Fayetteville and Cumberland County and was an artist-in-residence at the Artist's Enclave at I-Park (East Haddam, Connecticut). In October of 2003 his piece “Pilgrim's Blues” (for piano, violin, and cowbell) premiered in Northampton, Massachusetts commemorating the tercentenary celebration of Jonathan Edwards.

On his sabbatical from Methodist University, he took part in the Fresno New Music Festival and was a guest lecturer at Azusa Pacific University. He is also the recipient of a 2010, 2012, and 2013 ASCAP PLUS award and the winner of the Henry Grady Miller Cup award (2012) for his choral work “Daughters of Song.”

His choral works “Mojave Cross, Desert Voices” and “Light” are published with Renforth Music, and his chamber works “California Low Brow” and “Year of the Rat” are available through Ars Nova Music. His most recent commission, “Five Seasons,” is with the North Carolina Music Teachers National Association (NCMTA) for their state conference in 2014.

He also recently received the Methodist University President's Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Expression (2014).

Dousa, Dominic
Dominic Dousa, a native of Rochester, Minnesota, joined the faculty of the University of Texas at El Paso in 2004. At UTEP he has taught music theory, aural skills, and composition. He holds degrees from Ball State University (D.A., Music Theory & Composition, 2003), Central Michigan University (M.M., Music Composition, 2000), Iowa State University (M.S., Statistics, 1998), and Harvard University (A.B. summa cum laude, Music, 1995). He also has studied composition in Prague. His primary composition teachers include Jody Nagel, David Gillingham, Craig Weston, and Milan Slavický.

Dousa's compositions have received performances at recitals, festivals, and conferences in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, England, Scotland, Peru, China, Korea, France, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Finland. He has works published by TRN Music and Dorn Publications. Two of Dousa's song cycles, With a Song in My Heart and Six Songs on the Poetry of Langston Hughes, are available on a CD released by Blue Griffin Recording. This CD features art songs set to texts of African American poets.

In addition to his activities as teacher and composer, Dousa has remained active as an accompanist and chamber musician. He has performed in numerous recitals at various universities and concert venues with faculty, guest artists, and students. He served as an official accompanist for the 4th Annual
ComPoser BiograPhies


Hannon, Andrew
Andrew Hannon's compositions have been performed throughout the United States at the NASA National Conference, Kentucky New Music Festival, Outside the Box Music Festival, and CMS Pacific Northwest Conference. His soprano saxophone and piano composition, Eternal Enamor, is published through Dorn Publications and has been widely performed. His music is an amalgamation of many diverse influences and alternates between extreme moments of violence and serenity.

Andrew currently teaches music theory and aural skills at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. He earned BM and MM degrees from Southern Illinois University, and a DMA in music composition from the University of South Carolina. [www.andrewhannon.com]

Houle, Arthur Joseph
Arthur Houle is Professor of Music and Director of Keyboard Studies at Colorado Mesa University as well as founder and artistic director of the International Festival for Creative Pianists (www.pianofestival.org), a unique competition open to all young pianists up to age 19. The festival promotes classical and jazz improvisation, versatility, composition, individuality, and repertory excellence in all styles.

Dr. Houle holds degrees from the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, New England Conservatory and the University of Iowa. He was the only pianist to be invited to perform twice, to critical acclaim, in the 1995 International Chopin Music Festival. He has given coast-to-coast lecture/recitals and master classes at institutions such as Eastman School of Music, Dartmouth College, New England Conservatory, Longy School of Music, and for various teacher organizations. Houle also presents often for national and regional professional conferences.

A critically acclaimed performer and recipient of a 2011 Music Teachers National Association Fellow Award, Houle has written for numerous periodicals. In 2008, the Hal Leonard Corporation published his Cowboy Jazz, a collection of original compositions for intermediate students. Houle's new publisher, Abundant Silence Publishing (http://abundantsilencepublishing.com), has published Cowboy Jazz II and will be issuing other original compositions for both students and professional musicians.

A private teacher since the age of thirteen, Houle taught previously at New England Conservatory, Boston Conservatory, the College of Idaho, and the Universities of Iowa, North Dakota and Texas-Austin.

Johnson, Brice
Brice L Johnson (b. Greencastle, IN, April 18 1989) found music at a young age. Inspired by its potential for creative expression, Brice chose to pursue music as his vocation and attended Indiana Wesleyan University in 2007 where he studied Music Composition and Percussion Performance. While attending IWU he recieved multiple honors such as the Jerry Franks Memorial Scholarship, Ruth Moshier Scholarship, IWU Music Scholarship (composition), and an IWU Music Service Grant. In 2011, he attended Butler University in pursuit of his Masters in Composition. At Butler he was awarded a tuition stipend as Graduate Assistant for the Composition Department. He is now attending Arizona State University in pursuit of his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Composition. Brice has recieved multiple commissions for new works, including a commission from the Fort Smith Symphony Orchestra, to be premiered in May of 2016. Brice's primary instructors have been: Michael Schelle, Rodney Rogers, James DeMars, Jody Rockmaker, Frank Felice, Craig Hetrick, Todd Syswerda, and Marc Wooldridge.

Brice is also an avid percussionist, having performed with many ensembles including: The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, The Marion Philharmonic Orchestra, Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, The Jordan College of the Arts Composers Orchestra, the Butler Graduate Percussion Quartet, The Indiana Wesleyan University Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble, and the IWU Percussion Ensemble.
Kavasch, Deborah H.
Deborah Kavasch, composer, soprano, and specialist in extended vocal techniques, has received grants and residencies in composition and performance and has had works commissioned and performed in North America, Europe, the United Kingdom, and China. She has appeared in concert in major international music centers and festivals, frequently presents on new music and women in music conferences and festivals, and has premiered over 75 new works. She has been described as a “multifaceted, multi-timbral vocalist” with “articulate radiance” (Los Angeles Times) and “astonishing range and agility” (Cleveland Plain Dealer), “blew off the balcony...thrilling” (Journal SEAMUS), “exuberant” (San Francisco Classical Voice). Kavasch is published by Fish Creek Music and is recorded by Lovely Records, Composers Recordings, Inc., Cambria Master Recordings, and TNC Classical. Her CDs of original works performed by herself, The Dark Side of the Muse, and Fables & Fantasies, are released under the TNC Classical label. She is currently Department Chair and Coordinator of Music Theory/Composition at California State University, Stanislaus.

Kilstofte, Mark
Mark Kilstofte is admired as a composer of lyrical line, engaging harmony, strong, dramatic gesture and keen sensitivity to sound, shape and event. Praised by the San Francisco Chronicle as “exciting and beautiful, consistently gripping,” his music has garnered a growing number of awards and honors including the Rome Prize, the Guggenheim Fellowship, ASCAP’s Rudolf Nissim Award, and the Goddard Lieberson Fellowship and Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His music, performed regularly throughout North America and Europe, has been featured on NPR’s Performance Today and From the Top and heard in concert halls from Moscow to Bangkok.

Kilstofte’s compositional style reflects his interest in everything from Gesualdo to Jethro Tull. His innovative approach to form—he is the son of a structural engineer—results in a music of tremendous integrity and clarity which can be humorous one moment, achingly beautiful the next. He currently teaches composition at Furman University and is a visiting professor/guest researcher at the University of Oslo's Center for Ibsen Studies, where he is writing an opera based on Ibsen’s Brand. His music is published by the Newmatic Press.
Carr, Tracy

Oboist Dr. Tracy Carr, a founding member of Trio Encantada, is active as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral musician, clinician, and adjudicator. Tracy’s past orchestral experience includes the Rhode Island Philharmonic, the RI Civic Chorale and Orchestra, the New England Philharmonic, the Eastern Connecticut Symphony, and the Rome Festival Orchestra. She currently performs with the Roswell (NM) Symphony, the Southwest Symphony (Hobbs, NM), the Amarillo Chamber Music Association, and joined the Eisenstadt Choral and Orchestral Festival Eisenstadt, Austria, summer 2007. Her international performance and presentation venues include the International Double Reed Society International Conference, the College Music Society International Conference, and the Hawaii International Arts and Humanities Conference. She has also presented recitals and masterclasses at Texas Tech University, West Texas A & M University, Abilene Christian University, Hardin-Simmons University, the University of Texas-Brownsville, the University of Southern California, Chapman University, Chicago State University, and the Sichuan Conservatory of China.

Her articles on performance and pedagogy have been published in the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors (NACWPI) Journal, the International Double Reed Society (IDRS) Journal, and The Instrumentalist magazine. She has also authored and co-authored two book chapters.

Dr. Tracy Carr is Professor of Double Reeds and Music History at Eastern New Mexico University, President of the College Music Society Rocky Mountain Chapter, New Mexico State Chairperson for National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors, and has served on the faculty of the Grumo International Music Festival, Tesero, Italy.

Dal Porto, Mark

see composer bio

Dipple, Keith

see composer bio

Dousa, Nayeli

Nayeli (López Romo) Dousa was born in Villahermosa, Tabasco in southeastern Mexico and was raised in Ciudad Juárez. In 2006, she joined the faculty of the Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez (UACJ). She holds degrees in piano performance from the University of Arizona (D.M.A.) and the University of Texas at El Paso (M.M., B.M. cum laude). Her doctoral dissertation focused on the piano music of Mexican composer Samuel Zyman. Dr. Dousa's principal piano teachers include Tannis Gibson, Mauricio Náder, and Arryl Paul.

Dr. Dousa has performed as a soloist with orchestras and in recitals, and has also been active as an accompanist. During her studies at UTEP, she was the winner of the department’s yearly concerto competition and subsequently performed with the university orchestra. She also placed 3rd in the National Edvard Grieg Piano Competition and gave a solo performance with the Chihuahua Philharmonic. In 2014, she was the featured soloist in the premiere of her husband Dominic’s piano concerto Estrella del Norte with the Orquesta Sinfónica de la UACJ. From 2003-2005, she performed as part of Diez Pianos, an ensemble that toured extensively throughout Mexico and gave performances in major concert halls. She has also given presentations as a lecturer and performer at professional conferences.

In addition to training as a musician, Nayeli was a national youth chess champion and a member of the Mexican national team in 1993 and 1994, and represented her country in international tournaments in Slovakia, Spain, Hungary, and Russia.

Houle, Arthur Joseph

see composer bio

Kavasch, Deborah H.

see composer bio
Marosek, Scott
Pianist Scott Marosek performs regularly as a soloist and collaborative artist. His performances in China, Israel, and throughout the United States have included appearances at such renowned venues as Xinghai Hall, the Jerusalem Music Centre, and the Meyerson Symphony Center. He has also performed several solo recitals sponsored by the Van Cliburn Foundation, and has appeared as a concerto soloist with the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra and the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra. As a result of his ongoing interest in new music, he has performed premieres of several new works. In addition to his work as a classical artist, Scott frequently performs with jazz groups.

Scott is president of the Fayetteville Piano Teachers Association and serves on the board of the North Carolina Music Teachers Association. He spends his summers teaching and performing at the Methodist University Summer Jam. He has also taught piano at Southwestern Adventist University and keyboard classes at the University of North Texas. Scott lives in Wade, NC with his wife Stephanie and daughter Laurel.

Nash, Leslie
A native of Albuquerque, Leslie Nash received her musical training at Boston University’s School for the Arts, studying with famed pedagogue George Neikrug. As a member of the New World Symphony under Michael Tilson Thomas, she traveled and performed in South America, Japan, France, Scotland, England, and across the United States. She gained extensive freelance experience while serving as teaching assistant to cellist Michael Haber at the University of Akron, playing regularly with the Columbus Symphony, Ohio Chamber Orchestra, Cleveland Chamber Symphony, Cleveland Opera and Ballet Orchestras, Canton Symphony, and the Akron Symphony.

Ms. Nash has been a participant in numerous summer music festivals, including the Colorado Music Festival, National Repertory Orchestra, the Festival at Sandpoint, Tanglewood and Interlochen, gaining chamber music experience playing festivals in Germany, Italy and the U.S. with such luminaries as Lukas Foss, Gunther Schuller, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Jeffrey Kahane and Robert MacDuffie.

Married to composer Mark Kilstrofte, she has a genuine passion for contemporary music. In 2002 she accompanied her Rome Prize-winning husband to the American Academy in Rome, where she was artist-in-residence during their year’s stay. In addition to her GSO duties, she has been a regular with the Charleston and Augusta symphonies. Her recent activities include a residency at the Banff Music Centre and a solo performance of “You [unfolding]” (a work written for her by her husband) with the Washington Square Contemporary Music Society at Merkin Concert Hall, a performance featured on NPR’s “Performance Today”.

Nordstrom, Stephen
Dr. Stephen Nordstrom joined the faculty of the UTEP Department of Music in 2014. Prior to coming to El Paso, he taught violin and viola at Indiana University East and Earlham College. Dr. Nordstrom completed his D.M.A degree in violin and orchestral conducting at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). He earned both an Artist Diploma and Master of Music degrees from CCM and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Texas. Dr. Nordstrom’s primary violin teachers include Won-Bin Yim and Philip Lewis, and he has studied orchestral conducting with Ai Khai Pung, Mark Gibson, and Donald Portnoy. He has won a number of competitions as a soloist and has performed internationally as a chamber musician.
Perry, Tim
Tim is an active freelance percussionist, composer, and educator. He received his Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Indiana Wesleyan University, and his Masters degree in Percussion Performance from Indiana University, where he studied with world renowned percussionists Kevin Bobo, John Tafoya, Steve Houghton, and Michael Spiro. While living in Indiana, Tim performed numerous times with the Marion Philharmonic Orchestra as well as taught and directed various high school indoor and outdoor marching groups. During this time is when his prowess in the marching arts became known. He was the assistant instructor for the Indiana University Marching Hundred Drumline for the 2014 marching season and was a four-year member of the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle corps playing snare drum from 2008–11. While marching within Drum Corps International, Tim competed and scored exceptionally well multiple times within the snare drum individual and ensemble competitions. Tim also has earned a snare drum world champion title from the 2010 Percussive Arts Society International Convention marching snare drum competition, performing his original rudimental solo, “Buzz.” In 2014, Tim was a semifinalist in the Atlanta Modern Snare Competition, showcasing new and traditional concert snare drum literature. Tim was most recently the percussionist for the internationally known touring brass group, Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass. The group tours from coast to coast, as well as overseas, performing over one hundred concerts a year. Presently, Tim lives in Lakeland, Florida, where he teaches at several high school percussion programs in central Florida, as well as Southeastern University, where he is the assistant drumline director.

Skinner, Timothy
Timothy Skinner has recently joined the New Mexico Philharmonic serving as third clarinet and bass clarinet. He has performed in the United States, Japan, Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, and England. Having lived in Southern California most of his life, Timothy earned a Bachelor of Music degree at California State University Northridge before moving to Albuquerque to pursue a Master of Music at the University of New Mexico. Timothy played in the graduate woodwind quintet, taught a clarinet methods course, and was the winner of the 2011 UNM Concerto Competition. Timothy went on to earn a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Texas at Austin and graduated in 2015.

While studying at the University of Texas, Timothy had the privilege of competing as a quarter finalist at the distinguished Fischoff Chamber Music Competition. He was also a finalist in the International Clarinet Association's Orchestral Excerpt Competition. In 2014, Timothy participated in the UT Wind Ensemble's World Tour, spanning almost an entire month, in which he played concerts in the US, Asia, and Europe. Timothy has performed with the Santa Fe Opera and the Dallas Winds. His principal teachers include Berkeley Price, Julia Heinen, Keith Lemmons, and Nathan Williams.

Watabe, Jun
Jun Watabe is Assistant Professor of Music (clarinet and saxophone) and Woodwind Coordinator at Colorado Mesa University. He is also principal clarinetist for the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra and founder of the CMU faculty wind quintet Mesa Winds. Dr. Watabe taught previously at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and has appeared as featured soloist in many national and international scenes to rave reviews.

Watabe has toured with the Arctic Chamber Orchestra, appeared as featured soloist with the Grand Junction and Littleton Symphony Orchestras, and played numerous times with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. He recorded with the Tokyo-Bach-Band and Collegio Saxophone Quartet and has premiered several prestigious composition commissions in the states and abroad.

Yun, Kristen Yeon-Ji
Kristen Yeon-Ji Yun is Assistant Professor of Music at Colorado Mesa University (low strings) as well as co-principal cellist in the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra. She is active as an international soloist, chamber and orchestral musician, scholar and clinician. Dr. Yun is also a prizewinner in numerous competitions around the world, including the IBLA World Competition in Italy, the 11th Annual Competition in the Performance of Music from Spain and Latin America, Travel Grant Competition, Walton Concerto Competition at Indiana University, Indianapolis Matinee Musicale, Chunchu Music Competition, Seoul National Competition, Nan-Pa Music Competition, and the Korean-American Competition. She performs on a French cello, made by Guersan in 1766.