

2021-2022

# MUSICAL ARTS SERIES

49th Season

The 2021-2022 Musical Arts Series will host all the performances in-person and have an audience present in the concert hall.

Please contact the Department of Music at (580) 745-2088 for more information.

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# ARTIST RESUME/BIO



## TrioPolis Ensemble

<http://www.felixolschofka.com/triopolis>

**Tuesday, September 21st, 2021, 7:30pm, Recital Hall**

Felix Olschofka, violin

Kimberly Cole Luevano, clarinet

Anatolia Ioannides, piano

Ensemble TrioPolis merges the distinct temperament, stylistic influences, creative spirit, and artistic vision of three cosmopolitan musicians based in North Texas: German violinist Felix Olschofka, American clarinetist Kimberly Cole Luevano, and Greek American pianist Anatolia Ioannides. TrioPolis was born following a series of successful collaborations in the dynamic College of Music at the University of North Texas in Denton. As our friendship and artistic kinship grew, so did our desire to form an ensemble. Meeting regularly at a local coffee house, we shared our vision, ideas, goals and aspirations, and most of all, our passion for chamber music.

Commissioning new works and forging innovating, interdisciplinary collaborations are the driving force behind TrioPolis. Our first recording, *TrioPolis One*, features world premiere recordings of seven commissioned works of diverse contemporary composers Kirsten Broberg, Costas Dafnis, Richard DeRosa, Sungji Hong, Andrew May, Benjamin Sabey, and Joseph Waters. *TrioPolis One* was released internationally in June 2018 on the Fleur de Son label.

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Since TrioPolis' inaugural season in 2016, we have presented concerts consisting primarily of contemporary works in venues throughout the United States. TrioPolis' numerous recent performances feature these compositions in conjunction with the vast repertoire for this combination created in the 20th century. We are committed to the continual growth of repertoire that explores of the expressive, textural, and timbral possibilities of our instrumentation in addition to the aesthetic, emotional and spiritual effects literary and visual arts references have on the presentation and interpretation of specific works.

German-born and raised violinist, **Felix Olschofka** has toured as a soloist, concertmaster, and chamber musician throughout Europe, Asia, North America, and South America. His playing has been described as "violinistic pyrotechnics" (TheaterJones Dallas), "charged with beauty" (Gramophone), "a true dream of romantic melodiousness" (General-Anzeiger-Bonn), and "remarkable for dramatic power" (Star-Telegram Fort Worth). Olschofka was awarded first prize in the German Music Competition in 1992 and second prize in the International Chamber Music Competition Charles Hennen in 1993. A proponent of contemporary music, he frequently presents the premieres of new works for violin and is a founding member of SWARMIUS and TrioPolis. His professional background also includes concertmaster with the Terre Haute Symphony, guest concertmaster with the Dallas Chamber Symphony and Shreveport Symphony, and associate concertmaster with the Brandenburg Philharmonic Potsdam, Germany. From 2011-2014, he led the Ensemble du Monde in New York City as their concertmaster. Olschofka has served as faculty at San Diego State University, Round Top Music Festival, Bay View Music Festival, Summit Music Festival, and is currently professor of violin and Associate Dean for Operations at the University of North Texas (UNT) in Denton, Texas, and founder and director of the UNT Summer String Institute. He holds bachelor and master degrees from the Music Conservatory Hanns Eisler in Berlin, Germany, a performance certificate from Indiana University, Bloomington, and a doctorate from the University of California San Diego. For more information, please visit [www.felixolschofka.com](http://www.felixolschofka.com)

With reviews such as "breathtaking..." (The Clarinet), "virtuosic tone and technique" (Tampa Bay Times), "exceptionally sensitive and introspective rendition" (The Clarinet), and "a most skillful artist" (Fanfare Magazine), **Kimberly Cole Luevano** continually establishes herself as a formidable soloist and chamber musician known for poignant interpretations and inventive programming. Luevano's recordings on the Fleur de Son label, "Bright Angel" (2013) and "Atonement" (2015), received critical acclaim and were considered in the Grammy nomination process. Her recording of Michael Daugherty's "Brooklyn Bridge" with the UNT Wind Symphony was released on the GIA label in 2016, and her chamber recordings are available on the Centaur and Albany labels. Luevano joined the University of North Texas faculty in 2011 and served as a member of the clarinet faculty at the Interlochen Arts Camp from 2003 to 2012. She was Pedagogy Chairperson for the International Clarinet Association from 2012-14 and has given acclaimed solo and chamber performances, adjudicated, and taught masterclasses on four

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continents. Former students occupy performing and teaching positions throughout the United States and Canada. With pianist Midori Koga and soprano Lindsay Kesselman, she forms the trio, Haven, "... A refuge for the creation of new music for soprano, clarinet, and piano." Originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Luevano studied in Paris as the recipient of a Fulbright Grant and Kade Fellowship. She plays and endorses Selmer Paris instruments and is a D'Addario and Company Performing Artist.

**Anatolia Ioannides** maintains a versatile career as a pianist, teacher and creative arts entrepreneur. Praised for her "unfailingly skilled and sympathetic collaboration" (Scott Cantrell/The Dallas Morning News) and "warm deep-in-the-keys touch" (Lynn Rene Bayley/The Art Music Lounge), she is a sought-after chamber music partner, collaborative pianist and coach. She has performed throughout the United States and Canada including the Piatigorsky International Seminar for Cellists, the Banff Centre for the Arts, Women in Music International Composers' Conference, NATS conferences, USC-Visions and Voices and KUSC-Sundays Live with Rick Todd's USC Wind and Percussion Ensemble. As Artistic Director and Founder of the chamber ensemble Cmc3+, she produced school and community outreach programs in arts education. She has developed and performed cross disciplinary performances, "Art and Hellenism", in collaboration with the Consul General of Greece and Loyola Marymount University (2004) and at the University of Southern California's Fischer Museum of Art in conjunction with US Ambassador Donald Bandler's photography exhibit, "A Roving Eye on Cyprus" (2008). She was a leading pianist in the world premiere of Andrea Büttner's multichannel video exhibition "Piano Destructions", produced at the Walter Phillips Gallery and the Banff Centre in Canada (2014). She was the founder and director, or a workshop "We Play Better Together", dedicated to providing coaching and performance opportunities in instrumental and vocal chamber music to pre-collegiate performers. She currently serves on the piano faculty of Southeastern Oklahoma State University and teaches solo and collaborative piano at the University of North Texas- Summer String institute. Anatolia Ioannides is the pianist and co-founder of TrioPolis, and serves on the Leadership team of the International Keyboard Collaborative Arts Society (IKCAS) and as the organization's Membership Coordinator.

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## **Michael Kelly, baritone**

<http://www.michael-kelly.com/>

**Tuesday, October 5th, 2021, 7:30pm, Recital Hall**

With nearly two decades of experience as a performer and educator, American baritone Michael Kelly has led a versatile and multifaceted artistic career. In his performances, Michael has been praised as “expressive and dynamic” and “vocally splendid,” appearing with major international opera and orchestral companies in a wide-ranging repertoire of many styles and periods. He has performed at such illustrious venues as Carnegie Hall, Geffen Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, Wigmore Hall, with New York City Opera, Opernhaus Zürich, Opera Columbus, Santa Fe Opera, Theatre du Châtelet and with symphony orchestras across the US. He appears on two commercially released recordings of world premiere works by David del Tredici and Mohammed Fairouz, and will be heard on multiple recordings set to be released later this year.

As educator, Michael has maintained a private voice studio since 2004, working with singers at all levels and in an array of styles. He has given masterclasses at the conservatory and university levels focusing on both vocal technique and style and has given lectures on career pathways and entrepreneurship. He is a guest lecturer at NYU and SUNY Purchase where he instructs student composers how to write for the voice. Michael was a faculty member of SongFest in 2013 and is currently the Creative Director of RISE Camp at the Crested Butte Music Festival, a training program for young professional classical singers.

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Michael was co-founder and Artistic Director of SongFusion, a New York-based performance art ensemble focusing on song and multi-art form collaborative programming, and currently curates the digital concert series Room | to | Breathe.

A frequent collaborator with living composers as performer, poet and librettist, he is also the curator for the widely-released baritone volume of art songs by living composers for NewMusicShelf's Anthology of New Music. Michael is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music and Juilliard.



### **Yi-Yang Chen, piano**

Ruth Steger Piano Institute and Clark and Wanda Bass Foundation Lectureship  
**Monday, November 8th, 2021, 8:00pm, Recital Hall**

Dr. Yi-Yang Chen shot onto the international stage with back-to-back victories in the 2018 [Sussex International Piano Competition](#), 2017 [Washington International Competition](#), and the [Waring International Piano Competition](#). The Worthing Herald music critic Richard Amey praised his recent performance “flair for the unusual and his technical and artistic capacity to deliver,” as well as his “musical and emotional intelligence, dexterity and virtuosity,” listening to Chen as soloist in Saint-Saëns’ Piano Concerto No.5 “Egyptian” with the Worthing Symphony Orchestra. His vibrant playing at the Pacific International Piano Competition (Canada) was recognized by the judges, who selected him for the first prize (“...*Yi-Yang showed an impressive breadth of emotional investment and natural affinity for the music he played. The informed*

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*individuality and command of his performance was immediately compelling to the judges. We feel this young man has a fine future as an artist. He seems to 'own' the piano as he plays, and this makes his performance extremely powerful” – Dr. Robin McCabe).*

Yi-Yang Chen is an assistant professor of piano at the University of Kansas (KU School of Music) and the Artist Director and Founder of the Appalachian Music Festival. Born in Taipei, Taiwan, Chen has been playing the piano since the age of 8. Yi-Yang completed his Doctor of Musical Arts And Bachelor's of Music at the Eastman School of Music with Douglas Humpherys, and his Master's degree at The Juilliard School with Robert McDonald and Jerome Lowenthal. He also has solo/chamber masterclasses with Itzhak Perlman, Emanuel Ax, Daniel Pollack, Joseph Kalichstein, Glenn Dieterow, Thomas Sauer, and with members from the Cleveland, Shanghai, Borromeo, Brentano, Ying, and Guarneri String Quartets.

Yi-Yang has captivated audiences worldwide with his flamboyant playing. He has performed on five continents in acclaimed venues, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center in New York, Melbourne Recital Centre, National Concert Hall in Taipei, Banff Music Centre in Canada, ZK Matthews Great Hall in South Africa, and the Assembly Hall in Worthing, UK, with such orchestras as the Worthing Symphony Orchestra, Brevard Music Center Orchestra, Avanti Orchestra, Eastman Philharmonic Orchestra, National Chinese Orchestra, and the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra. He has appeared at the Perlman Music Festival, Taos School of Music Summer Chamber Music Festival, Banff Music Centre, Music Academy of the West, Four Seasons Winter Workshop, and Brevard Music Center.

A wealth of experience enables Chen to become an outstanding teacher and performer. As the winner of the 2012 MTNA National Young Artist Piano Competition, Chen was given a Steinway piano and two concerts in Miami sponsored by the Chopin Foundation (USA) as his prize. In a review of his [2017 solo recital at Carnegie Weill Hall](#), New York Concert Review wrote, *“He negotiated this difficult work with what appeared to be the greatest of ease. The passagework was sparkling, and the energy never flagging. Mr. Chen held the line and momentum throughout, challenges which many players struggle with in this work [...]. It was a powerhouse performance. His bold, take-no-holds approach was all that one hopes for in this work. It is a high-risk proposition that demands a large technique, and Mr. Chen delivered. I've heard many performances of this sonata, and Mr. Chen's ranks among the best. “* Chen also

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received top prizes at the Hilton Head International Piano Competition, American Prize (Professional Division), UNISA International Piano Competition (South Africa), Kerikeri International Piano Competition (New Zealand), Seattle International Piano competition, Thailand International Piano Competition, San Jose International Piano Competition, Roberto Melini International Piano Competition (Italy), Five Towns Piano Competition, Schubert Club Competition, Thousand Islands International Piano Competition, and Chopin International Piano Competition in Hartford.

Yi-Yang Chen is a member of the Music Teachers National Association, College Music Society, and Mu Phi Epsilon. He enjoys swimming, biking, traveling, and composing. Yi-Yang is currently working on a recording project with Champs Hill label (UK); the release is scheduled for 2022-2023. Before joining the University of Kansas, Yi-Yang has served on the faculty at East Tennessee State University.

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## **Robin Tercero Montgomery, soprano**

**Tuesday, March 8th, 2022, 7:30pm, Recital Hall**

**Robin Tercero Montgomery**, a native of San Antonio, Texas, holds a Master of Arts degree in Vocal Pedagogy from Texas Woman's University where she studied with Joan Wall, a nationally recognized vocal pedagogue and former principal performer at the Metropolitan Opera. She received her Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from Southern Methodist University where she studied with modern classical music specialist Linda Anderson-Baer.

Among the roles Ms. Montgomery has performed are Adele ([Die Fledermaus](#)), Papagena ([The Magic Flute](#)), and Monica ([The Medium](#)). She has concertized at various venues including the Mendelssohn-Haus Musiksalon in Leipzig, Germany, the Seminari di Fine d'Estate in Mattinata, Italy, and The Modern Museum of Art in Fort Worth. In November 2017, she was a soloist with the TMEA Region 2 choirs. She was a featured soloist with the Sherman Symphony singing excerpts from Mozart's [Le Nozze di Figaro](#) in April 2019, and in August 2019, she and her husband Dr. David Tercero became published authors with [Music Appreciation: A Guide for the Active Listener](#).

As a high school student, Ms. Montgomery was a member of the Texas All-State Choir with directors Robert Shaw and Paul Salamunovich. Her choral and theatre experience motivated her to pursue a music degree and become a private voice instructor. She has taught voice lessons in the Lewisville ISD since 1997 and at Hebron High School since 2008. Over 65 of her students have performed in an Texas All-State Choir. Her students have earned acceptance to study classical voice, contemporary commercial voice, music theatre and theatre at various schools including UNT, Baylor, Indiana University, Belmont, SMU, TCU, OCU, and Texas State University.

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## **Eunice Keem, violin**

**Tuesday, April 12th, 2022, 7:30pm, Recital Hall**

Violinist Eunice Keem has established herself as a dynamic and engaging artist, equally compelling as both soloist and chamber musician. A Chicago native, she attended Carnegie Mellon University for her music studies. After joining the Dallas Symphony Orchestra in September of 2011, she began her new position as Associate Concertmaster in the 2014-2015 season.

As a soloist, Ms. Keem has been featured with orchestras such as the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, National Chamber Orchestra, Park Ridge Civic Orchestra, Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra, and Evanston Symphony Orchestra, among others. A winner of numerous competitions, she received first and top prizes at the Irving M. Klein International Competition, Schadt International Competition, Corpus Christi International Competition, Kingsville International Competition, as well as a Paganini Prize at the 7th International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, among others.

As a chamber musician, Ms. Keem was a member of the Fine Arts Trio, first place winners of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. They also performed on Chicago WFMT'S "Dame Myra Hess Concert Series" and "Live from Studio One". Several years later, she again received first prize at the Fischhoff National Competition, this time with the Orion Piano Trio. She was also a founding member of Carnegie Mellon University's Starling Quartet, with whom she toured Costa Rica, China, and the United States in their series of concerts and masterclasses,

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Ms. Keem has participated in the Grand Teton, Lake George, Colorado, and Breckenridge Music Festivals. She currently serves as adjunct professor of violin at the University of North Texas.



## Boyd Street Brass Ensemble

<https://boystreetbrass.com/>

Saturday, April 23th, 2022, 7:30pm, Recital Hall

Boyd Street Brass was founded in 2012 as the one and only modern "second line" band in Oklahoma. Originally all of its members were either faculty or alumni from the University of Oklahoma. BSB has entertained and educated students all around the state and performed at various festivals, such as Jazz in June, The Oklahoma City Jazz Festival, and The Artesian Arts Festival. The various players that make up the group have performed all over the nation in symphony orchestras, jazz combos, nationally touring big bands, and as solo artists. Boyd Street Brass recently completed its second album titled, "Are You Ready" following "Sup Sucka" released in 2015.