

presents

Andrew Acosta, Viola
In a Graduate Recital

assisted by:
Dyan Meyer, Piano

In fulfillment of the requirement
for the MM degree in Viola Performance
From the studio of Dr. Tyler Hendrickson

Idyllic Reminiscences

Michael Kimber
(b.1945)

Märchenbilder Op. 113

Nicht schnell
Lebhaft
Rasch
Langsam, mit melancholischem Ausdruck

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

Intermission

Viola Concerto in E-flat Major BI. 545
Andante Sostenuto - Allegro

Alessandro Rolla
(1757-1851)
Ed. Alan Bonds
Arr. Andrew Acosta

Sonata for Viola and Piano
Allegro Moderato
Lento
Allegro

José Pablo Moncayo
(1912-1958)

Born in Fresno, California, but raised in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; **Andrew J Acosta** is an active violist in the Eastern Iowa area. Starting his private studies with Andrew Steffen, Andrew found his love of viola playing in high school. He earned the full tuition Marshall Scholarship and studied with Dr. Michael Kimber at Coe College. He was also the winner of the Coe College Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition in 2018, playing the first movement from Cecil Forsyth's viola concerto. Andrew currently studies with Dr. Tyler Hendrickson at the University of Northern Iowa, pursuing his Masters in Music. Aside from being a fine player, Andrew loves to cook and is currently a Catechumen at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church.

Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, **Dyan S. Meyer** is an Assistant Adjunct Professor at UNI. Meyer holds a B.A. in Music Education and Music Performance in piano from Graceland University and a Master's degree in Music Performance with a Choral Conducting emphasis from Florida State University. She has taught at the University of Northern Iowa from 1999-2003 and 2007-present.

While earning her master's degree, she was a graduate assistant with teaching responsibilities including conducting, vocal coaching and accompanying. Prior to graduate school, Meyer was the Assistant Choral Director at Parkway West High School in St. Louis, Missouri, where she conducted four choirs and taught a course in music theory.

From 2003-2007, Meyer established a home piano studio and currently teaches 30 students per week. She also accompanies numerous students at UNI as well as the Iowa High School State Solo/Ensemble Festivals. In addition, Dyan keeps active in her collaborating as a member of Cedar Valley Strings which specializes in weddings and funerals.

Meyer is a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda music honor society and serves as the faculty and financial advisor for Sigma Alpha Iota here at the University of Northern Iowa.

In her spare time, Dyan enjoys running and golfing.

She currently resides in Cedar Falls with her husband, Monte and their son, Luke.

Education:

M.M. Music Performance Conducting, Florida State University

B.A. Music Education, Graceland University

Michael Kimber is a renowned violist, composer, educator, and inventor. Finishing his DMA in 1975 with founding member of the Juilliard String Quartet, Raphael Hillyer, Michael found himself spending a season with the Alexandria Quartet and the following year with the legendary Kronos Quartet. In his return to the United States from two years of touring, Michael has taught at the University of Kansas, University of Southern Mississippi, and at Coe College. He invented the Poly-Pad in 1990, which has gained popularity among teachers internationally. Michael retired in 2020 and has since spent his time with his wife, son, and their cats. Recently, he was awarded the prestigious Silver Alto Clef Award from the International Viola Society for his worldwide contributions to the viola.

Idyllic Reminiscences reflects on the thoughts and ideas of oneself in nature. In such a busy world today, it is hard to find time spent away from people, electronics, and the fast pace of life. This piece reflects Michael's own experience in nature and how unique our own can be. "Let us never forget, for even a moment, the countless beauties and bounties of nature that have brought pleasure, comfort, peace, joy, and the very existence of life itself; and let us, at all times, do whatever we can, however we can, whenever and wherever we can, to protect and preserve, for Earth's future inhabitants, with utmost reverence, the miracle of this unique and precious biosphere, our home, the one and only home of life as we know it." –Michael Kimber

Robert Schumann was a brilliant pianist and art song composer. He studied since his youth with German pianist Friedrich Weick and later married his daughter Clara, who in her own right became respected for her virtuosic abilities as a pianist. Schumann was a great admirer of Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Schubert. This is often reflected in his early compositional style. Robert suffered from dystonia and melancholic depressive episodes. This would eventually lead to him being put in an asylum at age 44 on his own request, which led to his death two years later from pneumonia.

This piece which is translated to *Fairy-Tale Pictures* is dedicated to Wilhelm Joseph von Wasielewski who was a renowned German violinist and conductor. All four movements are character pieces that were composed during one of Schumann's depressive episodes. After recovering, he named and gave context to this piece, publishing it in 1851. His style is often referred to as a 'lucid narrative' and leaves the imagination entirely open to the interpretation of each audience member.

Alessandro Rolla was an Italian violinist, violist, and composer. He is one of the first viola virtuosos from his time and is considered the great mentor of violin virtuoso Niccolò Paganini. Rolla studied with Giovanni Andrea Fioroni and later earned a position in the La Scala orchestra in Milan. He was also the first violin/viola professor of

the Milan Conservatory, a position he held until retiring a year before his death. Rolla's greatest contribution to the technique of both violin and viola were his use of left hand pizzicato, quickly ascending and descending scales, chords, double stops; all in thirds, sixths, octaves; and flying staccato.

This concerto I have arranged for viola and piano comes from the Alan Bonds edition, who takes into consideration the original manuscripts of BI. 544 and BI. 545 which are considered both to be the same but critics argue what is original to Rolla's hand. The Sydney Beck edition was also studied alongside these manuscripts. The first movement of the concerto is filled with lush operatic themes and takes full use and advantage of the characteristics of the viola. The orchestra parts are perfectly composed to support the violist's range and timbre to create a sound that enchants the listener.

José Pablo Moncayo was a Mexican pianist and composer. He is one of Mexico's most treasured composers who established the nationalism in art music in the 20th century. He studied at the conservatory in Mexico city and with Eduardo Hernández Moncada. Best known for his Hupongo, Moncayo's legacy as a composer is deeply rooted in traditional dance music from the northern region of Mexico.

Moncayo's viola sonata grabs many of the elements from his earlier compositional style of music. Published in 1991 but composed in 1934, the first and third movements take full use of the offbeat rhythmic ideas and create different types of hypermeter throughout each movement, invoking the dance styles from his home region. While on the other hand, the second movement explores quartal and quintal harmonies over beautiful polyphonic counterpoint.