Upcoming Events

UNI Violin Festival
February 10
Russell Hall

UNI Suzuki School Faculty Recital
February 13 at 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, GBPAC

The School of Music Calendar of Events is available online at music.uni.edu/events.

In consideration of the performers and other members of the audience, please enter or leave a performance at the end of a composition. Cameras and recording equipment are not permitted. Please turn off all electronic devices, and be sure that all emergency contact cell phones and pagers are set to silent or vibrate. In the event of an emergency, please use the exit nearest to you. Please contact the usher staff if you need assistance.

This event is free to all UNI students, courtesy of the Panther Pass Program.

The University of Northern Iowa honors the ancestral stewards of the land on which our university rests. Through the work we do every day to live our mission, the University of Northern Iowa aspires for you to see a community that: honors Native and Indigenous People and culture, lives the 7th Generation Principle, does good for the people and communities we serve, and embraces stewardship of our mission and land. Please see our full stewardship statement at president.uni.edu/stewardship-statement.

Performances like this are made possible through private support from patrons like you! Please consider contributing to School of Music scholarships or guest artist programs. Call 319-273-3915 or visit www.uni.edu/music to make your gift.

Thomas Leleu, Tuba
Collaborating with
Natia Shioshvili, Piano

Friday, February 9, 2024, 6 p.m.
Davis Hall, Gallagher Bluedorn
**PROGRAM**

Concerto in G Minor . . . . . . . . . . . . .George Frideric Handel  
(1685-1759)

Concerto No. 1 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Alexey Lebedev  
(1924-1993)

Mon coeur s’ouvre à ta voix . . . . . . Camille Saint-Saëns  
(1835-1921)

“Danse Bohème” from Carmen . . . . . . .Georges Bizet  
(1838-1875)

Tango Etude No. 3 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Astor Piazzolla  
(1921-1992)

Csárdás . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Vittorio Monti  
(1868-1922)

**ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

**Thomas Leleu** is the first tuba player to have ever won the award “Revelation Instrumental Soloist of the Year” at the annual French Grammy awards, the Victoires de la musique classique.

At 36 years of age, Thomas Leleu is considered as “one of the best tuba players of the world” (Radio France) and a “world star of the tuba” (Europe 1, TMC – French National TV). He is one of the few tuba players to exclusively lead a solo career. This iconoclastic artist stands where genres mix: a classical soloist, passionate about world music, modern music and pop. Equally at home as a classical soloist with a symphony orchestra, at a jazz festival or on the stage of a giant arena playing pop music, he displays surprising musicality and agility, dusting off the traditional image of the tuba.” He joined the Conservatoire de Paris (the CNSM) at age 17 and obtained the first prize for tuba and a degree awarded with distinctions. He studied as well at the Hochschule für Musik in Detmold (Germany) with Hans Nickel. Thomas Leleu earned awards in several competitions throughout the world such as in Markneukirchen – Germany, Jeju – South Korea, and Luxembourg. He has been principal tubist with the Marseille Philharmonic Opera since he turned 19. In 2012 Thomas put the tuba in the spotlight by winning the “Revelation Instrumental Soloist of the Year” at the annual French classical music award, the Victoires de la Musique Classique. In 2017, he is ZDF/Arte « Stars of tomorrow » on the Arte channel in Berlin invited by Rolando Villazon. In 2019, he was nominated in 3 categories at the Opus Klassik in Germany (German Grammy) and at the VIA Awards in Germany.

Thomas is also regularly invited to perform at festivals and in Concerts Hall around the world with many orchestras such as: Konzerthaus de Berlin, Mito Settembre Musica (Italy), Festival de Pâques d’Aix en Provence, Jazz à Vienne, Kissinger Sommer de Bad Kissingen (Germany), Folle Journée, Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, National Kaohsiung
Center for the Arts (Weiwuying, Taiwan), Marvao International Music Festival (Portugal), Brandenburgische SommerKonzerte (Germany), Festival Radio France-Occitanie-Montpellier, Brucknerhaus de Linz (Austria), Hong Kong City Hall, Taipei Zhongshan Hall (Taiwan), Festival International Gramado in Concert (Brazil). Throughout the world: USA, China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Macao, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada, Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Poland. He has also performed as a soloist with many orchestras: Orchestre National d'Île de France, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, Köln Chamber Orchestra, Junge Sinfonie Berlin, Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, Marseille Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo Wind Symphony, Lanyang symphony orchestra (Taiwan), Orquestra Sinfônica do Rio Grande do Norte (Brazil), Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra (USA), Orquestra Sinfônica de Santo André (Brazil)... Thomas is regularly invited to radio and TV shows on TF1-TMC (French national TV), France 2, Bayerische Rundfunk (Germany), ZDF, Arte (Germany/France), Radio Nacional de Argentina.

Many composers have dedicated pieces to him. He has released several albums: «In the mood for tuba» (Fondamenta/Sony Music), «Impressions for tuba» with the Royal Orchestra of the Belgian Airforce, «Stories» (Ars Produktion), Born to Groove (NoMadMusic/Pias). On this album, he proposes his own compositions around jazz and popular music. Thomas regularly gives master classes in the most prestigious universities of the world: Juilliard School in New York, Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin, Universität der Kunste (Berlin), Eastman School of Music in Rochester, Indiana University (Bloomington), Tokyo Music College, Carnegie Mellon University (USA), Tokyo University of the Arts (Geidai), CNSM in Paris, New England Conservatory in Boston, Korea National University of Arts, Beijing Central Conservatory and also in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Poznan.

Thomas has founded several unique and unprecedented ensembles with a tuba: Thomas Leleu Sextet (tuba and string quintet), tubaVScello, TL Trio (tuba, piano, vibraphone). In 2017 he created the show The Tuba’s Trip (around jazz and popular music) staged by Claude Tissier (ex Cirque du Soleil), in 2021, Born to Groove (jazz world and pop music) with which he performs in many Jazz festivals.

He is since 2011 a “Melton Meinl/Weston Artist-Ambassador Buffet Crampon.” He has developed with the firm the 2250 TL “French Touch” tuba which he is currently playing.

**Natia Shioshvili**, born in Tbilisi, Georgia, began studying piano at the age of seven. She continued her education at Z. Paliaššvili Special Music School and later at Tbilisi State Conservatory. In 2000, Natia joined the Toradze Piano Studio at Indiana University South Bend. While in school, she regularly performed in studio concerts, gave solo recitals, and appeared as a soloist with the IUSB Philharmonic. She actively collaborated in the Michiana area before joining the UNI School of Music in fall of 2017. Since then she has been collaborating with students, faculty members and guest artists. Natia Shioshvili holds Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Indiana University South Bend.