

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®

School of Music

presents the faculty recital of

Carl Donakowski, *cello*

with

Adam Larrabee, *guitar*

Gabriel Dobner, *piano*

Šarūnas Jankauskas, *clarinet*

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

7 pm

Recital Hall



Program

<i>Les Berceaux</i> from <i>Trois Mélodies</i> (1879) Op. 23	Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) arr. Larrabee
Suite No. 1 for Cello and Guitar	Raffaele Bellafrente (b. 1961)
Prelude	
Tango	
Ave Maria (Tanti anni prima)	Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992) arr. Larrabee
<i>Bulgarian Rock</i> from <i>Tanzologia</i>	Atanas Ourkouzounov (b. 1970)
Requiebros	Gaspar Cassadó (1897-1966)
Nocturne in C# minor	Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)
Trio in A minor, Op. 114	Johannes Brahms (1833-1997)
Allegro	
Adagio	
Andantino grazioso	
Allegro	

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personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

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Program Notes

Gabriel Fauré

Les Berceaux (The Cradles)
Along the quay the great ships,
Listing silently with the surge
Pay no heed to the cradles
Rocked by women's hands.

But the day of parting will come,
For it is decreed that women shall weep,
And that men with questing spirits
Shall seek enticing horizons.

And on that day the great ships,
Leaving the dwindling harbor behind,
Shall feel their hulls held back
By the soul of the distant cradles.

Text (French) by Sully Prudhomme

English translation by Richard Stokes, from *A French Song Companion* (Oxford, 2000)

Raffaële Bellafronte's website provides this description of his music:

His writing lives off an abandonment to a perennial fervent inspiration that lets itself go to the most varied suggestions, always finding the threads of a convincing and very catchy discourse, confirming all its eclecticism and expressive force.

Along with the more frequently performed *Oblivi6n*, **Astor Piazzolla** composed *Tanti Anni Prima* for the 1984 Marco Bellochio film *Enrico IV* (Henry IV) starring Marcello Mastroianni and Claudia Cardinale and based on the eponymous play (1921) by Luigi Pirandello.

Atanas Ourkouzounov grew up in Sofia, Bulgaria, where he began guitar studies with Dimitar Doitchinov. He studied guitar, chamber music, analysis, ethnomusicology and improvisation at the Paris Conservatory and graduated in 1997 with a first prize in guitar. Ourkouzounov has written over 100 solo and chamber works for guitar. He performs as soloist and with flutist Mie Ogura and Petar Ralchev, a Bulgarian accordion virtuoso, drawing inspiration from traditional Balkan music.

Bulgarian Rock is the third and final movement of his *Tanzologia* (2000).

Catalan cellist Gaspar Cassadó was Pablo Casals most famous pupil. He was also taught piano by Enrique Granados and composition by Manuel de Falla, making his musical education exceptionally well-rounded. *Requiebros* is variously translated as a flirtatious or complimentary remark.

At age 58, having made known in his will the intention to retire from composition, **Brahms** heard Richard M6hlfeld, principal clarinetist of the Meiningen Court Orchestra and was inspired to take up his pen again, composing the Trio Op. 114 and the Quintet Op. 115 for clarinet and strings that year (1891) and, in 1896, two Sonatas Op. 120 for clarinet and piano.

Biographies

Carl Donakowski was a prize winner in the 1989 Mendelssohn Competition in Berlin. His recital performances have aired on WQRS Detroit, WQXR New York and Sudwestfunk Radio Baden-Baden. As a member of the West End Chamber Ensemble, he participated in the National Endowment for the Arts/Chamber Music America Rural Residency Chamber Music Initiative. His major teachers were Timothy Eddy, Janos Starker, Gary Hoffman and Christoph Henkel.

Gabriel Dobner has appeared with some of Europe's leading singers in the major concert venues of Munich, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Zürich, Vienna, Tokyo and Nagoya. He has recorded for both the Ottavo and MDG labels, winning high praise from BBC Music Magazine, Fono Forum and the West German Radio in Cologne, who referred to him as a "master among Lieder pianists." He has also done numerous radio recordings in the U.S., Germany and Japan.

Guitarist **Adam Larrabee**, a seasoned jazz guitarist who appeared as a sideman on Bruce Hornsby's recording Spirit Trail. He taught at New England Conservatory while performing in the Boston area for nearly 10 years. Adam Larrabee is perhaps best known around the country as a banjoist with the bluegrass band **Love Canon**.

Clarinetist **Šarūnas Jankauskas** joined JMU faculty in 2016. His performance engagements have taken him through Europe, Canada and across the US, while participating at International Conservatory Week Festival, Musicalis Daunia, SoundSpace at Blanton, Chamber Music at the Barn, ICA ClarinetFests® and various new music events. His commissioning project Duos will culminate as a music album in 2020. Dr. Jankauskas holds degrees from Grand Valley State University, Rice University and The University of Texas at Austin.