

**The Pittsburgh Double Bass Symposium**  
Sunday, March 6, 2022

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THE PITTSBURGH

 **DOUBLE BASS**

Symposium

**Sunday March 6, 2022 Schedule**

**All Events will be in person and streamed live on Youtube**

- 9:00 am      Class – Jeff Mangone
- 10:30 am     Performance – Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Bass  
Section
- 1:30 pm      Class – Tracy Rowell
- 3:30 pm      Performance – Max Dimoff
- 6:00 pm      Class – Jeremy Kurtz-Harris
- 8:00 pm      Performance – Volkan Orhon

\*All times are Eastern Daylight Time and subject to change



Visit [www.pittsburghdoublebasssymposium.com](http://www.pittsburghdoublebasssymposium.com) to access and explore The Bass Symposium app.

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## 9:00 am Jeff Mangone

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Mr. Mangone will critique the following students of the Carnegie Mellon Double Bass Studio:

**Daniel Ryan**, Master of Music: Rossini's Barber of Seville Overture, Verdi's Otello soli, Wagner's Flying Dutchman Overture, and Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet Crypt Scene

**Levee Stadel**, Advanced Music Studies: Mozart's Marriage of Figaro Overture, Verdi's Rigoletto Duet, Wagner's Der Meistersinger Prelude, and Tchaikovsky's Trepak (Russian) from The Nutcracker



**Jeff Mangone** is a full-time player and teacher of string bass, bass guitar, and tuba. Jeff has played virtually every style of music in local, national, and international venues in a professional career that began in 1972. Jeff is currently principal bassist for the Pittsburgh Opera, a position he has held proudly since 1987, as well as the Pittsburgh Ballet, Civic Light Opera, Wheeling Symphony where he also serves as Personnel Manager, Chamber

Orchestra of Pittsburgh, Music on the Edge, Latshaw Pops, Pittsburgh Baroque Orchestra, and the PBS "My Music" Series. He is also a substitute bassist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. He has performed and/or lectured at every Pittsburgh Double Bass Symposium. His active jazz career includes concerts, touring, and recording with artists including Catch 22, Ken Karsh, Joe Negri, Opie Bellas, Daphne Alderson, Bo Wagner, Donna Groom, Ann Feeney, Latshaw Productions, Julia Eglar, Richard Stoltzman, Vic Damone, Rosemary Clooney, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Pops, and countless others. Since 1979, he has served on the faculty of the Mary Pappert School of Music at Duquesne University and the University of Pittsburgh Department Of Music. He has also served on the faculties of the Slippery Rock University Department of Music-1997 to 2009, the Indiana University of PA Department of Music-1990-1997, and the West

Virginia University Department of Music-1978 to 1987. Many of his former students have gone on to careers in orchestras, jazz groups, touring Broadway musicals, and recording studios throughout the United States and the world.

Jeff is proudly married to Jennifer Gerhard Mangone, Principal Viola of the Pittsburgh Opera, Ballet, Civic Light Opera and the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra! Jeff's glorious double bass was made by Vittorio Bellarosa in Naples, Italy circa 1930 and has been Jeff's care since 1988!

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# 10:30am: PSO Double Bass Section Recital

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## Suite No. 5 for Violoncello in G minor

**J.S. Bach**  
(1685-1750)

Prelude  
Allemande  
Courante  
Sarabande  
Gavotte I/II  
Gigue

*John Moore, double bass*

## Concerto No. 2 for Double Bass and Piano

**Giovanni Bottesini**  
(1821-1889)

Allegro

*Joe Campagna, double bass*  
*Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

## “La Captive” for Double Bass and Piano

**Amy Beach**  
(1867-1944)

## “Nimrod” for Double Bass and Piano

*From Enigma Variations, Op. 36*

**Sir Edward Elgar**  
(1857-1934)

Transcribed and Edited by Lucas Drew

*Jeff Grubbs, double bass*  
*Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

## Adagio from the ballet “Unforgettable 1919”

**Dimitri Shostakovich**  
(1906-1975)

*Aaron White, double bass*  
*Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

## “el Lagarto de Nazca” for Two Basses

**Peter Guild**  
(b.1969)

*Peter Guild, double bass*  
*Micah Howard, double bass*

**Concerto for Double Bass and Piano**

**Serge Koussevitsky**  
(1874-1951)

Allegro  
Andante

*Micah Howard, double bass*  
*Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

**Applebite**

**Soundgarden**  
Arr. Peter Guild

*Peter Guild, double bass*  
*Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

**“Chanson Triste” & “Valse Miniature”**

**Serge Koussevitsky**

*Brandon McLean, double bass*  
*Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*



**Joseph Campagna** joined the bass section of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in May 2016. Prior to his Pittsburgh appointment, he was a member of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra for five years. He has also performed as a substitute musician with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra.

In 2003, Campagna attended Temple University, where he studied with Philadelphia Orchestra bassist John Hood. In 2004, he was accepted into the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied with Harold Robinson, principal bass of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and Edgar Meyer.

While attending Curtis, Campagna was a member of Symphony in C (formerly the Haddonfield Symphony) based in Camden, New Jersey. He was also a member of the Verbier Festival Orchestra in Verbier, Switzerland, from 2009 to 2011.

Campagna plays on a bass made by Giovanni Cavani in Modena, Italy, circa 1890.



**Jeffrey Grubbs** joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 1996 after playing in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra.

Grubbs, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, received his musical training at Youngstown State University, The Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Southern California and is a student of Lawrence Angell, Paul Ellison,

Ralph Jones, Anthony Knight and Tony Leonardi.

He started as a violinist at the age of 9 and later switched to the double bass at age 18. With this late start, Grubbs gained a great deal of experience as a student by working very diligently and becoming very active in the Northeast Ohio-area music community performing with many of the symphony orchestras in that region. While a student at USC, he won the position of orchestral fellow with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra through the Music Assistance Fund, now the Sphinx Organization, which gave him the opportunity to perform as a full-time member of that ensemble for two seasons.

In addition to his orchestral achievements, he is also an accomplished jazz bassist. In 1986, he won Downbeat Magazine's "Dee Bee" award for Best Collegiate Bass Soloist from a submittal of a recording of his work with the Youngstown State University Jazz Ensemble. He has performed and recorded with many touring internationally known jazz artists, including Nat Adderly, Kenny Burrell, Joe Lovano, Diane Schur, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Ira Sullivan and Joe Williams. Grubbs is currently quite active performing in the Pittsburgh jazz community.

Grubbs has served as a faculty member of Carnegie Mellon University, Florida International University, Clark-Atlanta University, the University of Pittsburgh, the Brevard Music School and Slippery Rock University. He also served as associate professor of jazz double bass at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign and is currently serving as adjunct professor of string bass at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Grubbs enjoys living in the City of Pittsburgh with his wife, Tania, and their three children.



**Peter Guild** joined the double bass section of the Pittsburgh Symphony in 1999. Previously he had been a member of the Columbus and Toledo Symphonies. He grew up in Carver, Oregon, and took up the cello and bass in the North Clackamas School District string programs where he studied with bassist and string teacher Dave Anderson. Without the music programs in the public schools, it is unlikely that Mr. Guild would have ever played a musical instrument. He later studied with

Mount Hood Community College's Larry Zgonc. Mr. Guild earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in bass performance from the University of Michigan, where he studied with Stuart Sankey. Other teachers include Steve Molina, Jeff Turner, and electric bass recording legend Carol Kaye.

Mr. Guild enjoys arranging and composing music in all genres and is honored to teach double bass orchestral repertoire at Carnegie Mellon University. Peter is married to PSO violinist Kristina Yoder, and is the father of Marty, Sam, Leah, and Maggie Guild.



**Micah Howard** joined the world-renowned Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 1996 at the age of 25. He regularly performs as a recitalist and chamber musician and has been featured as a soloist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Howard has had the privilege of working with young musicians not only as a private teacher, but also as a lecturer and coach for various universities and music youth groups. In 2010 Howard received the Pennsylvania-Delaware

String Teachers Association's *Outstanding String Teacher Award*. Since that same year, he has served as Artist Lecturer in Double Bass at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Micah Howard is passionate about promoting the arts and helping the next generation of musicians to achieve their greatest potential.





**Brandon McLean** was appointed associate principal bass of the Pittsburgh Symphony in 2016. Prior to this, he served as principal bass of the Colorado Symphony, associate principal bass of the Vancouver Symphony (BC), and assistant principal bass of the Florida Orchestra. Originally from Seattle, Washington, McLean started music studies in the public school system. From there, he received a bachelor's degree from the University of North Texas, a

master's degree from the Boston Conservatory and spent additional time studying at Carnegie Mellon University. For three years, McLean was a fellow of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, and has also participated in many prestigious summer festivals, including Tanglewood, Verbier, National Repertory Orchestra and the Artosphere festival. In his free time, McLean enjoys hiking, fishing, and camping.



**John Moore** became a member of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 1996 hired by Music Director Lorin Maazel. He moved to Pittsburgh from San Diego where he had been a member of The San Diego Symphony since 1991. He also held the title of Principal Bass with the San Diego Chamber Orchestra. Moore earned his Bachelor of Music degree at the Curtis Institute of Music in 1988 studying the double bass with The Philadelphia Orchestra Principal, Roger

Scott. John continued his studies with Lawrence Wolfe at the New England Conservatory in 1988. Moore won first place in the La Jolla Symphony Solo Competition in 1993 performing the Koussevitsky double bass concerto. John has performed with numerous music festivals including the National Repertory Orchestra, the Tanglewood Music Festival, Shleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, the Colorado Music Festival, Strings in the Mountains and the Grand Teton Music Festival. John was the Associate Principal Bass with the Honolulu Symphony from 1989 to 1991 and served as a Lecturer at the University of Hawaii in 1991. In 1996 he was awarded the position of principal bass of the Columbus Symphony. He served interim double bass professor at Penn State University in 2008. In recent years John has been involved with early music and has performed occasionally with Pittsburgh's Chatham Baroque, recently appearing in Chatham's December 2013 performances

of J.S. Bach's Brandenburg Concertos. He has performed extensively as a soloist and as a chamber musician in and around Pittsburgh since 1996. John is married to Susanne Park, a member of the Pittsburgh Symphony's first violin section. They live in Lawrenceville with their son Oliver. John plays on a two hundred year old English bass made by Jon Betts.



Born in Muskogee, Oklahoma, bassist **Aaron White** began his musical studies in the public school system after moving to Irving, Texas. He continued his studies at Southern Methodist University and then Duquesne University. His principal teachers include Thomas Lederer and Jeffrey Turner.

White has given master classes and recitals at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Pennsylvania State University, Southern Methodist University, Carnegie Mellon University and Duquesne University. In 2012 and again in 2014, he performed with the All-Star Orchestra led by Gerard Schwarz, which aired locally and nationally on PBS.

Prior to joining the Pittsburgh Symphony, White was a member of the Louisville Orchestra and the Florida Orchestra.



Venezuelan-born pianist **Rodrigo Ojeda** discovered his passion for music at the very early age of two when his parents made him listen to Carl Orff *Trionfo di Afrodite* and *Carmina Burana*, but it was not until the age of ten that Mr. Ojeda began to take his first piano lessons. By the age of fifteen, Mr. Ojeda was invited to perform Tchaikovsky First Piano Concerto, with the Gran Mariscal de Ayacucho Orchestra which was broadcast live on radio and television in Caracas,

Venezuela.

A versatile pianist, Mr. Ojeda has frequently performed as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. He has performed in every prominent concert hall in his native Venezuela as well as in Ecuador, Spain, USA,

and Mexico with an expansive repertoire of Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Gershwin, Grieg, Schumann, Mozart, Liszt (Totentanz), Cesar Frank, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov, Saint Saëns and Stravinsky. Mr. Ojeda has participated in master classes with numerous concert pianists like Kasimierz Giesrod (former rector of the Frederic Chopin Academy in Warsaw), Marek Jablonsky, Georgy Sandor, Marta Gulyas, and Earl Wild.

Possessing a wide-ranging knowledge of chamber music repertoire, he has collaborated with countless instrumentalists and vocalists worldwide. He has played and recorded several CDs with various principal members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as well as former Concertmasters Andrés Cárdenes and Noah Bendix-Balgley. Recently, Mr. Ojeda recorded Stravinsky Piano Concerto with Carnegie Mellon's Wind Ensemble.

Mr. Ojeda received a Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance at IUDEM, Venezuela (Institute of Musical Studies) in 1997 with his mentor and pianist Arnaldo Pizzolante, then moved in 1999 to the United States where he received a Master's Degree and an Artist Diploma at Carnegie Mellon University under Mr. Enrique Graf in 2003.

Currently Mr. Ojeda is an Assistant Teaching Professor of Coaching and Accompanying at Carnegie Mellon University as well as a piano faculty member in its Music Preparatory School. He has also been playing with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra since August 2006.

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## 1:30pm Tracy Rowell

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Ms. Rowell will critique the following students of the Carnegie Mellon Double Bass Studio:

**Sruti Bapatla**, Bachelor of Music: Minuets from Bach's 1st Cello Suite

**Blake Giesting**, Advanced Music Studies: Bottesini's Concerto No. 2, Mvt. 1; Stravinsky's Pulcinella Suite, Mvt. VII; Beethoven's 5th Symphony, Movement 3; Shostakovich's 5th Symphony, Movement 1, Exposition

**Daniel Ryan**, Master of Music: Courante and Gigue from Bach's 3rd Cello Suite

**Levee Stadel**, Advanced Music Studies: Bottesini's Concerto No. 2, Mvt. 1; Milhaud's "La Creation Du Monde", bass solo, one measure before rehearsal 11; Mozart's Symphony No. 35, Mvt. 1, page 1; Strauss' Ein Heldenleben, #40



**Tracy Rowell** is on the faculty of the Oberlin Conservatory and the Cleveland Institute of Music. An active performer on modern and historical bass, Tracy is the former Assistant Principal Bass of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, a major Canadian ensemble. Currently the principal bassist of Citymusic Cleveland Chamber Orchestra, she also performs with Apollo's Fire, Cleveland's Baroque Orchestra. A founding member of the Pantheon Ensemble, Tracy has also

performed with groups such as the Cavani, St. Lawrence, Pacifica, Jasper, Jupiter and Parker Quartets.

Serving on the Board of Directors for the International Society of Bassists as Education Chair, Ms. Rowell co-directed the Young Bassists Program at ISB Convention 2019 and for the 2021 virtual ISB YB. She led the fundraising effort in 2019 to create the George Wellington and George

Vance Scholarship Fund for young bassists to attend ISB Conventions. Tracy is a founding member of the Project for All Gender Equality (PAGE).

Ms. Rowell performs and teaches at summer programs such as Bassworks Maryland, Kansas City Bass Workshop, Milt Hinton Institute, Bass Club (UK), and the Rochester Bass Retreat. She was a faculty member at George Vance's Summer Bass Workshops. Ms. Rowell regularly presents masterclasses at institutions such as The Colburn School, USC, Northwestern University, and Peabody Conservatory. In 2016, Tracy received a grant from Oberlin, to continue her studies in Paris with the acclaimed virtuoso, Francois Rabbath. She received her MMus from Boston University, where she studied with Edwin Barker. She received her BMus from Rice University, as a student of Paul Ellison.

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## 3:30pm Featured Recital: Max Dimoff

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### Suite No. 1 for Unaccompanied Cello in G major, BWV 1007

**J.S. Bach**  
(1685-1750)

Prelude  
Allemande  
Courante  
Sarabande  
Minuet I/II  
Gigue

### Suite No. 2 for Unaccompanied Cello in d minor, BWV 1008

Prelude  
Allemande  
Courante  
Sarabande  
Minuet I/II  
Gigue



**Maximilian Dimoff** is the principal bassist of The Cleveland Orchestra and Associate Professor of Double Bass at The University of Michigan. Mr. Dimoffs' career began with an appointment as assistant principal bass with the San Antonio Symphony while still a student in 1990. He was quickly promoted to the principal position. Mr. Dimoff became a member of the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra in Chicago in 1992 and a year later moved back to his hometown to join

the Seattle Symphony Orchestra. Since joining the Cleveland Orchestra as Principal Bass in 1997, he has appeared as soloist with the Orchestra at Severance Hall and the Blossom Music Center, as well as on tour at Carnegie Hall and in Europe.

Mr. Dimoff joined the faculty at The University of Michigan in the fall of 2017 after serving for seventeen years as Double Bass Department Head at The Cleveland Institute of Music. He is also a coach and faculty

member with The National Orchestral Institute and The New World Symphony.

Mr. Dimoff studied with Jeff Bradetich while attending Northwestern University. Other influential teachers include Warren Benfield of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Gary Karr, Eugene Levinson of the New York Philharmonic, and Ronald Simon of the Seattle Symphony. Mr. Dimoff performs on a double bass dated 1651 by the Italian maker Antonio Mariani.

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## 6:00pm Jeremy Kurtz-Harris

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Mr. Kurtz-Harris will critique the following students of the Carnegie Mellon Double Bass Studio:

**Nathan Graham**, Master of Music: Bourrees from Bach's 3rd Cello Suite; Mozart's Symphony No. 35, Mvt.4, recap; Beethoven's 5th Symphony, Movement 3; Strauss' Ein Heldenleben, #9

**Andrew Ballard**, Master of Music: Prelude and Allemande from Bach's 3rd Cello Suite

**Drew Brunson**, Advanced Music Studies: Bourrees from Bach's 3rd Cello Suite; Mahler's Symphony No. 2, Mvt. 1, page 1; Strauss' Don Juan, Letter A; Verdi's Otello Solo

**Hiroki Yuasa**, Advanced Music Studies: Gigue from Bach's 5th Cello Suite; Beethoven's 5th Symphony, Movement 3; Mozart's Symphony No. 39, Mvt.1 mm. 13 -98; Strauss' Ein Heldenleben, #9



Bassist **Jeremy Kurtz-Harris** holds the Sophie and Arthur Brody Foundation Principal Bass Chair of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Kurtz-Harris has a diverse musical background that includes solo, chamber and orchestral performance. He is the winner of numerous competitions, including the 1997 International Society of Bassists solo competition, and has been the principal bassist of the SDSO since 2004.

His recital experience is extensive, including solo appearances in Houston, Memphis, Philadelphia, San Antonio, San Diego, San Francisco and Toronto, as well as appearances at several



International Society of Bassists conventions and “Bass 2008” in Paris. He performed Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Harbison’s Bass Concerto with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra in March 2007 as one of fifteen bassists participating in the coast-to-coast premiere of the piece. He has also appeared as soloist with New Jersey’s Riverside Symphonia and the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia.

Mr. Kurtz-Harris has performed chamber music at the Banff Centre for the Arts, Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall, The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, La Jolla SummerFest, San Diego’s Art of Elan chamber music series, and the Verbier Festival in Switzerland. A graduate of The Curtis Institute and Rice University, his main teachers have been Harold Robinson and Timothy Pitts. His wide musical interests have also led him to study with such artists as jazz bassist John Clayton and classical/bluegrass bassist-extraordinaire Edgar Meyer. In addition to his performing pursuits, Mr. Kurtz-Harris is on the Board of Directors of the International Society of Bassists, and he is on the music faculty at San Diego State University and Idyllwild Arts Academy. His first solo CD, *Sonatas and Meditations*, was released in 2008 in partnership with Houston Classical Radio, KUHF. His website is [www.jeremykurtzharris.com](http://www.jeremykurtzharris.com).

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# 8:00pm Featured Recital: Volkan Orhon

David Gompper, piano

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## Solo Sonata

**Carl Friedrich Abel**  
(1723-1787)

Allegro

## Surprise Solo Suite for Double Bass

(1685-1986)

Prelude

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande

Gavotte I & II

Gigue

*Intermission*

## Cello Sonata-Four Cities

**Fazil Say**  
(b.1970)

## Trois Pièces pour violncelle et piano

**Nadia Boulanger**  
(1887-1979)

Modéré

San Vitesse et à l'aise

Vite et nerveusement rythmé

## Stella Celi (Star of Heaven) (2022)

**David Gompper**  
(b. 1954)

## La Muerte Del Ángel

**Astor Piazzolla**  
(1921-1992)

## Final Words & Acknowledgements

The Carnegie Mellon School of Music Double Bass Studio is committed to preparing students for a fulfilling and rewarding career in music. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Micah Howard

([micahbhoward@me.com](mailto:micahbhoward@me.com)).

We want to thank our sponsors. Without their support and participation this event would not be possible.

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Also, a big thank you to Denis Colwell, Bob Skavronski, Dan Fernandez, Emily Gallagher, Sharon Guberman, Ross Garin, Kristian Tchetchko, Rich Kawood, all of the presenters, the CMU students and all the people behind the scenes who made today possible.



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Or Download the free app for iOS on the App Store



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, **March 17** • Carnegie Mellon Chamber Series: Noah Bendix-Balgley Returns  
Kresge Theater, College of Fine Arts • 7:30 pm • Free: Ticket required

Friday, **March 18** • David Young, Euphonium  
Kresge Theater, College of Fine Arts • 7:30 pm • Free: No ticket required

Saturday, **March 19** • Charlie Claffey, percussion  
Kresge Theater, College of Fine Arts • 3:30 pm • Free: No ticket required

Sunday, **March 20** • Taylor Francis, flute  
Kresge Theater, College of Fine Arts • 2:00 pm • Free: No ticket required

Sunday, **March 20** • Savannah Schaumburg, horn  
Alumni Concert Hall, College of Fine Arts • 5:00 pm • Free: No ticket required

*All performances subject to change. Please check our website: [music.cmu.edu](http://music.cmu.edu) for the most up-to-date performance information and tickets.*