

# **The Pittsburgh Double Bass Symposium**

Sunday, March 10, 2024  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts



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# **Class - Jeff Mangone**

9:30 AM • Kresge Theatre

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

**Brian Bera**, Master of Music

Tchaikovsky - *Serenade for Strings*

Verdi - *La Traviata*

Beethoven - *Symphony No. 9* Recitative

Verdi - *Otello*

**Henry Samuels**, Advanced Music Studies

Prokofiev - *Romeo and Juliet*

Strauss - *Der Rosenkavalier*

Verdi - *Falstaff*

Verdi - *Rigoletto*

## Biography

**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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# Presentation – Gaelen McCormick

11:00 AM • Kresge Theatre

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Ms. McCormick will give a presentation on **Performance Preparation**.

Audience members will have the opportunity to participate in Q & A during the presentation.

## Biography

**Gaelen McCormick's** career started on stage with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. After 23 years, she “retired” due to deafness and now is making a new path in the arts in healthcare field, leading the Eastman Performing Arts Medicine program at the University of Rochester. Her twin passions for music and healthcare are mirrored in her nonprofit board service: she is the president of the International Society of Bassists and Vice-President of the National Organization for Arts in Health.



Pedagogy is an integral part of her career, whether helping new bass players to find their voice and learn to play without injury, or helping teachers create bass studios and school programs that are sustainable. Gaelen recently celebrated 20 years on the faculty of the Eastman Community Music School. She is the author of three pedagogy books for developing bow technique, *Mastering the Bow vol 1-3*, and a book of duets for developing bassists, *Double Trouble*, all published by Carl Fischer. She recently completed a three-year-long project to review and compile the history of pedagogy for the instrument which was published in late 2023 by Routledge, *Teaching Violin, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass: Historical and Modern Pedagogical Practices*.

Gaelen holds performance degrees from Carnegie Mellon University where she studied with Jeff Turner, and the Eastman School where she studied with James VanDemark. She is an alumna of the League of American Orchestra's *Essentials of Orchestra Management*. And because learning never stops, she recently attained her Level One certification in Paul Rolland String Pedagogy.

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# Class – Patricia Weitzel

1:00 PM • Kresge Theatre

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

**Isabella St. John**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering  
Eccles – Sonata in G minor, movements 1 & 2

**Gemma Washington**, Bachelor of Music  
Dragonetti – *Concerto*, movement 1

**Sruti Bapatla**, Bachelor of Engineering Studies and Arts  
Bach – *Cello Suite No. 1*, Gigue

**Henry Samuels**, Advanced Music Studies  
Bach – *Cello Suite No. 5*, Courante

*Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

## Biographies

**Dr. Patricia Weitzel** has appeared as soloist, chamber musician, orchestral performer, teacher and clinician in several countries including Argentina, Brazil, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, England, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, the Netherlands and the United States. Prior to her appointment as Assistant Professor at Penn State, Dr. Weitzel served as the Lecturer of Double Bass at Columbus State University. She has been on faculty positions at Augustana College, Central College, Grinnell College, St. Ambrose University, and Drake University. She is a member of the Columbus Symphony and a former member of the Des Moines and Quad City Symphonies.



Dr. Weitzel has collaborated and worked with renowned artists such as the Daedalus Quartet, pianist Soyeon Kate Lee, bassist Volkan Orhon, and pop singer Lizzo. She spends her Summers performing worldwide, teaching at the Sphinx Performance Academy at the Juilliard School, participating in the Wintergreen Music Festival and teaching at the Schwob Summer Music Festival. In addition to being a performing artist and educator, Dr. Weitzel continually receives recognition for her leadership and advocacy of diversity, excellency, and inclusion in the Arts. As a member of the 2019 Global Leaders Program Cohort and one of the recipients of the Sphinx Organization's Mpower Artist Grant, she was involved in the

development of initiatives that offer opportunities of music education to underserved youth.

Dr. Patricia Weitzel is the former Membership Chair and current Marketing Chair of the International Society of Bassists, an organization with approximately 3000 members in over 40 countries whose mission is to encourage excellence in bass performance, pedagogy, research, composition, and lutherie.

Weitzel performs on a 2015 Nick Lloyd double bass generously supported in part by the Sphinx Mpower Artist grant.

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# Performance – PSO Double Bass Section

3:00 PM • Kresge Theatre

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**Cello Suite No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1008**

**Johann Sebastian Bach**  
(1685–1750)

Allemande

**“The Mystery”**

**Xavier Foley**

*Drew Collins, double bass*

**Adagio in E minor**

**Johann Christian Bach**  
(1735–1782)

*Jeff Turner, double bass; Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

**Fantasiestücke, Op. 73 for Double Bass and Piano**

**Robert Schumann**  
(1810–1856)

- I. Zart und mit Ausdruck (delicate and expressive)
- II. Lebhaft, Leicht (lively, light)
- III. Rasch und mit Feuer (quickly and with fire)

*John Moore, double bass; Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

**Duettini Concertati for Violin and Double Bass**

**Virgilio Mortari**  
(1902–1993)

- I. Incontro
- II. Elegia
- III. Capriccio

*Dylan Naroff, violin; Aaron White, double bass; Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

**Prelude, Op. 31, No. 1**

**Scherzo, Op. 31, No. 2**

**Reinhold Gliere**  
(1875–1956)

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

## INTERMISSION

**Sonata in E minor for Double Bass and Piano**

**Vilmos Montag**  
(1908–1991)

Andante moderato

*Brandon McClean, double bass; Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*



## **Elegie, Op. 3. No. 1**

**Sergei Rachmaninoff**  
(1873–1943)

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

## **“La Sonnambula” Fantasy**

**Giovanni Bottesini**  
(1821–1889)

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

## **“Porgy and Bass”**

**Rachel Martins**

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

## **“Darlingtonia Wayside”**

**Peter Guild**

Passacaglia  
Tarantella

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

## **“White Rabbit”**

**Jefferson Airplane (Arr. Peter Guild)**

*Tania Grubbs, vocalist; Jeff Grubbs, double bass;  
Peter Guild, double bass; Micah Howard, double bass*

## **Biographies**

**Drew Collins** recently finished his first year of his Masters in Double Bass Performance at Carnegie Mellon University, studying under Micah Howard. Born in Cincinnati, Ohio and reared in Columbus, Ohio, Drew began playing double bass in fourth grade in elementary school. By the sixth grade, he also joined the Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestra and by eighth grade, the Urban Strings Columbus Youth Orchestra until he finished high school. Drew spent a summer abroad and multiple summers at Interlochen Center for the Arts. He attended the Cleveland Institute of Music for his undergraduate education, studying under Derek Zadinsky. Drew is a passionate electric bass player as well, collaborating with many different musicians. He has worked in free improv, jazz, funk, gospel, and psychedelic rock.



**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, Schleswig-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.

A dedicated teacher, **Jeffrey Turner** currently serves as Professor of Double Bass at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. He also holds the position of Distinguished Artist at the McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University.

Turner was as an adjunct professor at Duquesne University (1988–2017), where he served as Director of Orchestral Activities (2011-2016), String Department Chair (1995–1999) and Artistic Director of the City Music Center's Young Bassist Program. He also held the position of Artist Lecturer in Double Bass at Carnegie Mellon University from 1989–2011. Turner has also served as resident artist for many annual educational festivals, including the Pacific Music Festival, the National Orchestral Institute, and the National Youth Orchestra (USA).



As principal bassist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Turner served thirty-one seasons under music directors Lorin Maazel, Mariss Jansons, and Manfred Honeck. He was the principal bassist of the New American Chamber Orchestra from 1984–1986 and played with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for the 1986–87 season.

A winner of the Y Music Society's Passamaneck Award, he appeared in a critically acclaimed recital at Carnegie Music Hall in 1989. Turner has appeared often as a soloist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, including in world premieres of Thomas Newman's double bass concerto *Ward's Ferry* and Leonardo Balada's *Caprichos No. 4*, as well as Mozart's '*Per questa bella mano*.'

In 2009, Turner completed his master's in conducting with Dr. Robert Page at Carnegie Mellon University. In addition to his Duquesne University post, he has been Artistic Director of the City Music Center Chamber Orchestra (2004–2008) and Music Director of the Pittsburgh Live Chamber Orchestra (2004–2006). He served as Artist Lecturer in Conducting and conducted opera productions at Carnegie Mellon University, and has conducted his Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra colleagues in benefit concerts.

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.



**Dylan Naroff** began playing the violin at age three, initially studying with his mother. When he was 13, he toured Chile and Argentina as a member of the San Jose Youth Symphony. Those experiences solidified his love for music and passion for orchestra.

Dylan joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in August 2022. Prior to his appointment, he was a member of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, and has also performed with the Dallas Symphony, Deutsche Oper Berlin, and San Diego Symphony.

In 2013, Dylan won the silver medal at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. He has collaborated with members of the Tokyo and Vermeer Quartets, and has appeared with the Colburn Chamber Music Society. He is also a member of Delirium Musicum, a chamber ensemble based in Los Angeles who are praised for their electrifying performances, characterized as “ferocious and rhythmically mesmerizing” (*San Francisco Classical Voice*). Dylan has attended several music festivals including the Artosphere Festival Orchestra, Aspen Music Festival, Keshet Eilon Mastercourse, Mozarteum Academy, and the New York String Orchestra Seminar. As a teenager, he spent three indispensable summers at the Meadowmount School of Music, studying with Ann Setzer.



He was awarded the Young Artist Award from the Interlochen Arts Academy and later received his Bachelor of Music from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he studied with Alexander Kerr. As the concertmaster of IU’s Philharmonic Orchestra, Dylan worked closely with Jorja Fleezanis, and collaborated with many conductors including Arthur Fagen, Franz Welser-Möst, Osmo Vänskä, and Thomas Wilkins. While at IU, he developed a deep appreciation for opera and in 2018, helped lead the joint world premiere of Mason Bates’ Grammy award-winning opera, *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*.

Dylan is a certified Suzuki teacher who is committed to his students and their musical journeys. He has worked with the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (ICYOLA) and public school systems of Southern California.

Born in Raleigh, North Carolina, Dylan grew up in San Jose, CA where he studied with Jenny Rudin. In his free time, he enjoys chess, yoga, cooking, and podcasts.

**Tania Grubbs** has an extensive vocal range and has an interesting take on unique literature. Grubbs has been singing as long as she can remember, in many different venues & genres. A graduate of Youngstown State University, located in Youngstown, Ohio while a student there she gravitated toward singing and learning about jazz starting with the classic American Songbook. Tania focused on listening to every vocalist she could get her hands on. Whenever possible, she would sing, and a little over 20 plus years ago at a jazz session is where she met her now husband bassist, Jeff Grubbs. Jeff's career landed the couple in South Florida where they lived for 5 years. While in Florida Tania sang in many jazz clubs, performed in numerous concert setting and theatre productions. Tania was a featured vocalist with the Florida Philharmonic, and a "voice" of Boca Raton Pops Orchestra for 3 years. In 1996, Jeff accepted a position with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, where he is now celebrating his 23rd season.



Today you will most likely hear Tania fronting their own jazz quartet, The Tania & Jeff Grubbs Quartet, featuring Jeff on Bass. She is also a part of TRAVLIN' an exciting quartet of musicians who play soulful, beautiful, honest, accessible songs. One of Tania's dreams is to travel the globe sharing her voice, music and passion for singing. Tania is the Co-Music Director of the Fairmont Pittsburgh helping to oversee Jazz at Andys, a 4 night per week series located in the heart of downtown Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

While in Pittsburgh, Tania has been a four-time recipient of the Ready for Life Grants, founded by the Heinz Foundation, working with young children through music and movement. She has also been a featured vocalist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and has performed with the Civic Light Opera, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Jazzlive Series, Pittsburgh Jazz Society, Washington Jazz Wine & Jazz Festival, Westmoreland Jazz Society as well as Butler Jazz Society. Tania remains active by touring nationally and conducts masterclasses for high schools and colleges.

Presently, Tania is writing and producing a series of six/80 minute concerts, titled the I AM Series Vols1-6, Tania likes to explain them as "mini documentaries". The concerts will be debuted at City of Asylum's Alphabet City throughout the year with the hopes that they can be performed in other venues throughout the country.

In 2014 Tania released her debut CD; *Lost in the Stars...* "as a mother of three and a woman who has been given the privilege to revisit the thing she loves to do-sing; I feel that now more than ever I have something to sing about"

Jeff and Tania are proud parents of three great kids, and they are honored to call Pittsburgh their home and to be part of its' rich musical legacy.

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# Class – Max Dimoff

## 6:00 PM • Kresge Theatre

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

**Brian Bera**, Master of Music

Bach – *Cello Suite No. 1*, Prelude

**Fernando Almeida**, Advanced Music Studies

Koussevitsky – *Double Bass Concerto*, first movement exposition

Verdi – *Otello*, double bass soli

Ginastera – *Variaciones concertantes*, variation X

Strauss – *Ein Heldenleben*, #9

**Daniel Ryan**, Advanced Music Studies

Bach – *Cello Suite No. 3*, Gigue

Beethoven – *Symphony No. 5*, movement 3, trio

Mendelssohn – *Italian Symphony*, movement 1

Mozart – *Symphony No. 35*, movement 4

**Nathan Graham**, Advanced Music Studies

Martin – *Double Bass Concerto*, first movement exposition

Beethoven – *Symphony No. 5*, movement 3, scherzo and trio

Mozart – *Symphony No. 39*, movement 1

Brahms – *Symphony No. 2*, movement 1, Letter E

## Biography

Maximilian Dimoff is the principal bass of The Cleveland Orchestra. Mr. Dimoff was appointed as Assistant Principal bass of the San Antonio Symphony while still a student at Northwestern University. He was quickly promoted to the principal position and soon was performing in the summers after winning a position with the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra. Before coming to Cleveland Mr. Dimoff moved back to his hometown to play with the Seattle Symphony for three seasons. He is a former professor at The University of Michigan and is currently on the faculty at The Cleveland Institute of Music where he was Double Bass Department Head for seventeen years. He has appeared as soloist with The Cleveland Orchestra, as well as on tour at Carnegie Hall, in Europe and The Blossom Music Center. Mr. Dimoff performs on a double bass made by Antonio Mariani from 1651.



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# Performance – Nicholas Myers

8:00 PM • Kresge Theatre

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## Cello Suite No. 5 in C minor, BWV 1011

**Johann Sebastian Bach**  
(1685–1750)

- I. Prélude
- II. Allemande
- III. Courante
- IV. Sarabande
- V. Gavotte I & II
- VI. Gigue

*Nicholas Myers, double bass*

## Grand Duetto No. 3 for Two Double Basses

**Giovanni Bottesini**  
(1821–1889)

- I. Andantino
- II. Presto

*Nicholas Myers, double bass; Carl Anderson, double bass*

## Double Bass Sonata No. 2 in E minor, Op. 6

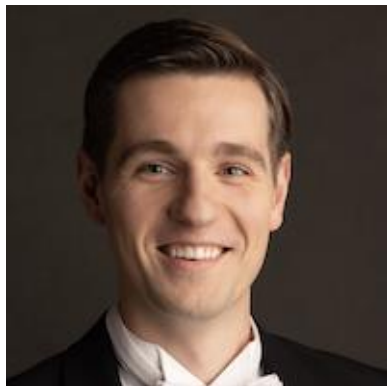
**Adolf Mišek**  
(1875–1955)

- I. Con fuoco
- II. Andante cantabile
- III. Furiant. Allegro energico
- IV. Finale. Allegro appassionato

*Nicholas Myers, double bass; Rodrigo Ojeda, piano*

## Biographies

**Nicholas Myers** was honored to be appointed Principal Bass of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra by music director Manfred Honeck in 2022. A native of Cadillac, MI, Nick spent four seasons playing in the bass section of his home state's Detroit Symphony Orchestra, which he joined in 2018 after his final year of graduate school. Nicholas is a Pirastro Strings artist, and performs on an 1836 Abraham Prescott (Concord, NH) double bass. Nick attained his high school diploma from Interlochen Arts Academy, his Bachelor of Music degree from New England Conservatory, and his Master of Music degree





from The Juilliard School, where he was a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship. He considers himself very fortunate to have studied with primary teachers Lawrence Wolfe, Todd Seeber, Rex Surany, and Hal Robinson, being exposed to a broad variety of musical styles and philosophies. In between the school years, Nick had two meaningful summers each at the Pacific Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, and the Tanglewood Music Center.

Nick and his wife live in Lawrenceville with their two dogs and love to explore the different neighborhoods of Pittsburgh. In his free time, Nick enjoys cycling, DIY projects and woodworking, reading histories and gaming.

Double bassist **Carl Anderson** joined the Boston Symphony Orchestra at the start of the 2019-2020 season. A versatile performer, he is equally comfortable in the orchestra, in chamber music ensembles, and as a soloist.

Orchestral appearances have included performances with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; with the New York Philharmonic, as a Zarin Mehta Global Academy Fellow; and with the Chicago Symphony.

Other notable engagements have included opera performances at the Spoleto Festival USA, and chamber concerts as a participant of the Perlman Music Program. In summer 2018, Anderson was a Tanglewood Music Center Fellow and received the 2018 Maurice Schwartz Award. At Tanglewood he collaborated with Leon Fleischer and the 2018 New Fromm Players quartet.



Anderson has also attended the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, CA, and the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan. During his undergraduate studies, he spent two seasons as a member of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. He also participated in the 2015 New York String Seminar. As an orchestral soloist, Anderson won the Cincinnati Youth Symphony Orchestra concerto competition in 2013. The following year he won the DePaul University Concerto Competition, performing Bottesini's Allegro di Concerto "Alla Mendelssohn." Anderson first studied bass with his father, Wayne Anderson, who was a bassist with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. He received his undergraduate degree at DePaul University, where he studied with Alexander Hanna, principal bassist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He went on to earn his master's degree at Rice University Shepherd School of Music, studying with Paul Ellison. Carl is a passionate teacher and is the Assistant Director of BUTI's double bass workshop.

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.

## Special Guest

**Jason Heath** is the host of Contrabass Conversations, a podcast devoted to exploring music and ideas associated with the double bass.

His blog and podcast are highly regarded in the music world and have been featured as top offerings in the world of arts and culture for the past decade. He is the author of *Winning the Audition* and *Road Warrior Without an Expense Account* and his work has been featured in *International Musician*, *TimeOut Chicago*, *Adaptistration*, *ArtsHacker*, *The Scroll*, *Bass World*, *Double Bassist*, and *Bass Musician Magazine*.



Jason is Strings Product Manager for Eastman Strings, and he is internationally active as a clinician and consultant. Jason is a past member of the board of directors for the International Society of Bassists, is past president of the Illinois chapter of the American String Teachers Association and is the past orchestra representative for District VII of the Illinois Music Educators Association.

A highly decorated veteran teacher, Jason is a past faculty member at DePaul University, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Trinity International University. He currently works with the San Francisco Symphony's Music and Mentors program and teaches internationally at various bass events, clinics, and master classes.

Jason's former students hold positions in the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Grant Park Symphony, and Philharmonie Sudwestfalen. As a high school orchestra director, Jason's orchestras had many notable performances, including the Midwest Clinic in Chicago and tours in Peru, Spain, and Cuba.

A graduate of Northwestern University, Jason performs with the IRIS Orchestra in Memphis Tennessee and ensembles in the San Francisco Bay Area. He was a member of the Elgin Symphony for 16 seasons and has also performed with the San Francisco Symphony, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Grant Park Symphony, and numerous other professional ensembles.

## **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.

**Shank's Strings, Upton Bass, Heartland String Bass Shop, Bowed String Shop, Brighton Music Center, Low Note Music, & Guarneri House**

Also, a big thank you to Joanna Bosse, Jesse Montgomery, Dan Fernandez, Taylor Boyle, Ross Garin, Kristian Tchetchko, Rich Kawood, all of the presenters, the CMU students, and all the people behind the scenes who made today possible.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, **March 12** • Student Recital: Billy Holtz, viola  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 11:00 AM • Free: No tickets required

Wednesday, **March 13** • Student Recital: Amin Carrillo, collaborative piano  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 3:30 PM • Free: No tickets required

Wednesday, **March 13** • Student Recital: Helen Peppler, soprano  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 7:00 PM • Free: No tickets required

Friday, **March 15** • Student Recital: Rick Hale, baritone  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 6:00 PM • Free: No tickets required

Friday, **March 15** • Student Recital: Hope Metts, soprano  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 8:00 PM • Free: No tickets required

Saturday, **March 16** • Student Recital: Hanna Atsedewoin, soprano  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 8:00 PM • Free: No tickets required

Sunday, **March 17** • Student Recital: Helena Lent, saxophone  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 12:00 PM • Free: No tickets required

Sunday, **March 17** • Sigma Alpha Iota Musicale  
Alumni Concert Hall, College of Fine Arts • 4:00 PM • Free: No tickets required

Tuesday, **March 19** • Student Recital: Evelyn Davenport, piano  
Kresge Theatre, College of Fine Arts • 8:00 PM • Free: No tickets 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.*