

Kevin Zoernig and Ronald Maltais
Two Pianists – 88 Keys

Sunday, March 5, 2023
3:00 pm

Ilfeld Auditorium
New Mexico Highlands University

Sonata in A Major, Op. 101 (1st Movement) Ludwig van Beethoven
Allegro ma non troppo

In memory of Robert Goodfellow

Fantastic Garlands – Ophelia Kevin Zoernig
(from incidental music score for Shakespeare's *Hamlet*)

Italian Concerto (2nd movement) Johann Sebastian Bach
Adagio

Tears in Time of War (in collaboration with MoveWest Dance Ensemble) Ronald Maltais
In memory of Lukas Foss

Intermezzo in E Minor, Op. 119, No. 2 Johannes Brahms
Andantino un poco agitato

Etude No. 1 in F Minor (from Trois Nouvelles Etudes) Frederic Chopin
Andantino

Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No.2 Johannes Brahms
Andante teneramente

Intermission

Everything That Touches You Michael Kamen

Honky Cat/Holiday Inn Elton John/Bernie Taupin

Suzanne/Famous Blue Raincoat Leonard Cohen

Success (Has Made a Failure of Our Home) Johnny Mullins
A tribute to Loretta Lynn

Diamonds and Rust Joan Baez

Across the Universe/Don't let Me Down John Lennon/Paul McCartney

Little Wing Jimi Hendrix

Seems Like a Lifetime Ago Annette Peacock/Bill Bruford

Pink Panther Henry Mancini

Presented by Meadow City Academy of Music

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Unauthorized recordings, videos and photos are not permitted.

About the Artists

Kevin Zoernig, composer, keyboardist, and music educator was initially classically trained. He has dedicated his life to exploring diverse traditions including jazz, blues, rock, funk, and electronica. Zoernig worked as a sideman or leader on dozens of recording projects including Jim Wilson's Sacred Ground compilation which won a Grammy in 2006. In demand as a performer, he toured with Eddie Harris, Nat Adderley, Ferron, and Boris McCutcheon among many others. Zoernig founded the Contemporary Music Program at the College of Santa Fe in 1992 and continues to cultivate young musicians through his work at New Mexico Highlands University and the United World College in Montezuma, NM. Regarding composition, he studied with George Russell, Bill Dixon, and Lou Calabro among others, and has written big band arrangements, piano instrumentals, songs, and music for theatre and dance productions as well as original music at two Meow Wolf locations. His recordings as a leader defy categorization but include a rich duo collaboration with renowned bassist David Friesen from 1995. Zoernig and Friesen reunited in April, 2022 at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, NM as part of their New Mexico tour.

Ronald Maltais, pianist, composer, and singer, served as the director of music at the United World College USA from 2001 to 2016. Former academic positions include Simmons College (visiting professor), Boston University (teaching fellow), Lexington Public Schools (composer-in-residence) and Florida Keys Community College (visiting professor). Originally from Southern New Hampshire, his intense studies with Maurice Hoffman led him to pursue BM and DMA degrees taken at New England Conservatory (piano performance) and Boston University (music composition). Maltais also pursued vocal training and he has devoted significant time to choral directing and artistic direction. His principal teachers include Jung Ja Kim, Katja Andy, Anthony di Bonaventura, David Krauser, Charles Fussel and Lukas Foss. The premiere of his *Meditation for Viola and Strings* was conducted by Foss in 1998. Maltais's travels have led to engagements as a musician and lecturer in several US states and in India, Turkey, South Africa and Peru. His work *Dark Woods* was composed for Jack Glatzer and performed in 2016 at the Light Spectrum concert (Dwan Light Sanctuary) on the United World College campus. Maltais is presently composing a string quartet (commission) and a work for solo alto flute titled *Hour of the Wolf* for Mary Kay Robinson. He is the founder and director of Meadow City Academy of Music in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

MoveWest Dance Ensemble: Based in Santa Fe, MoveWest is a collaborative organization bringing together dancers, choreographers, artists, movement therapists and educators who believe in the power of dance to touch imagination, evoke possibility, and transform lives. The ensemble dancers are committed to a somatic approach to dance allowing for a deeper connection between body, mind, heart, and place. When approached by Ronald Maltais they enthusiastically agreed to take on the challenge of diving deeply into the literary ideas explored in *Tears in Time of War*, as well as researching and acquainting themselves with the work Ukrainian dancers are producing concurrently in Kyiv. The dancers have chosen to improvise in today's concert, and as an added frisson, to not hear the music until the actual performance.

Meadow City Academy of Music was founded by Artistic Director Ronald Maltais in the spring of 2017, with a mission to provide excellent musical/dance training and performances for the Las Vegas, New Mexico community. The Academy seeks to present professional New Mexico musicians and dancers in performance venues throughout the city. As we proceed into our seventh season, we are proud to announce that the Academy has featured over 95 performance artists primarily from New Mexico. Due to the generosity of our donors, we are committed to awarding music scholarships for talented Las Vegas youth.

Fantastic Garlands – Ophelia

Fantastic Garlands - Ophelia is taken from Zoernig's incidental music score for a production of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Ophelia is a daughter, sister, lover and a member of the royal court's entourage. In each of those roles she is either exploited or abused or both, and under that irresistible pressure, she descends into mental illness. She loses her reason and appears at court babbling and behaving incoherently. The next thing the audience hears about Ophelia is that she has drowned herself. Maltais describes Zoernig's *Fantastic Garlands - Ophelia* as "the spirit of Ophelia suspended under water."

Tears in Time of War

Ronald Maltais composed *Tears in Time of War* over the past several months while contemplating the difficult struggles and hardship endured by the Ukrainians during the ongoing conflict with Putin's Russian forces. It can only be described as an intensely emotional lament for the senseless killing of Ukrainian civilians as a result of Russian bombs and missiles, and the brutal treatment and murders of innocent victims in the ongoing conflicts. There is a recurring chorale, slow and prayer-like, which evokes the enduring voices of a Ukrainian choir. This work was composed in memory of Maltais's former teacher Lukas Foss.

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