

# COLLEGE OF MUSIC

2024-25



CU ★ PRESENTS



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UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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The University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado's flagship university, honors and recognizes the many contributions of Indigenous peoples in our state. CU Boulder acknowledges that it is located on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute and many other Native American nations. Their forced removal from these territories has caused devastating and lasting impacts. While the University of Colorado Boulder can never undo or rectify the devastation wrought on Indigenous peoples, we commit to improving and enhancing engagement with Indigenous peoples and issues locally and globally.

# ***Summoning Spring***

## **A Master of Music Recital**

Paige Michaud, flute

*with*

Luca Pompilio, piano

2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 15, 2025

Grusin Music Hall

Imig Music Building

# PROGRAM

**Summerland Op. 54 (1935)**

William Grant Still

**Mnicakmun (2020)**

Linthicum-Blackhorse

I. Mnicasniyanyanla *Rippling Water*

II. Mnicaluza *Rapid Water*

III. Mniohuta *The Shore*

**Autumn Reflections (1994)**

Jennifer Higdon

**Icicle (1977)**

Robert Aitken

**To Greet the Sun (2004)**

Katherine Hoover

**Duo for Flute and Piano (1971)**

Aaron Copland

I. Flowing

II. Poetic, somewhat mournful

III. Lively, with bounce

# PROGRAM NOTES

## Summerland Op. 54

William Grant Still (1895-1978)

*Summerland* is the second segment of “Three Visions,” written for solo piano and later transcribed for violin and piano. While Grant Still himself wrote no program notes for his work, his daughter Judith Anne Still wrote, “The three segments of the suite, *Dark Horsemen*, *Summerland*, and *Radiant Pinnacle*, tell the story of the human soul after death: the body expires, and the soul goes on to an apocalyptic judgment. If it is seen that the past life has been a good one, the soul may enter “heaven,” or “Summerland”. After a period of time, the soul may reincarnate to learn additional earthly lessons on the human plane. Some souls reincarnate many times in a constant circular progress toward Godly perfection.” Grant Still wrote the piano suite for his wife, Verna Arvey, who premiered the work in Los Angeles in 1936.

## Mnicakmun

Linthicum-Blackhorse (b. 1989)

Dr. William Linthicum-Blackhorse is a two-spirit composer whose works include a wide array of cultural and environmental themes influenced by his Latino, Anglo, and Lakota heritages. He writes, “*Mnicakmun*, or ‘Sounds of Water,” began as a project for my composition studio class at Texas Tech University. The first movement was written with the total absence of classical triadic harmony. As I continued to write the piece, I began to break from the strict rules that I set for myself and developed what I believe is a beautiful representation of the different emotions a person experiences in life, using water as imagery. The title was a last-minute realization that I had written the piece with the Lakota Sioux native flute in mind, so I found it suiting to name the piece and its movements in the Lakota language. The word *mnicakmun* is both the description and terminology for the sound that water makes when moving over a rocky surface.”



## **Autumn Reflections**

Jennifer Higdon (b. 1962)

Pulitzer Prize and three-time Grammy winner Jennifer Higdon is an American composer and flutist whose works span a wide array of genre and instrumentation. About *Autumn Reflections*, Higdon writes, “Reflections rarely give an exact image; instead, they produce an image that is somehow reminiscent of the original. “Autumn Reflection” is the capturing of two different and distinct photographs of the season: one, the melancholy from the passing of the year; the other, the wonder of the explosions of color in a vibrancy seen only at this time of year.”

## **Icicle**

Robert Aitken (1917-2010)

Canadian-born composer and recipient of the 2003 National Flute Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award Robert Aitken became the youngest principal flute of the Vancouver Symphony when he won the audition at the age of nineteen. After nearly twenty years with the ensemble, he left to pursue a highly successful solo flute and compositional career. About *Icicle* for solo flute, Aitken writes, “I dedicated it to my daughter Dianne who also plays the flute. Her younger sister played the double bass at the time, and every morning Dianne would come downstairs and play the theme from The Pink Panther just to tease her. If you look at *Icicle*, you can see the same rhythmic motives of the theme. There is some Pink Panther in it. However, the actual melody relies on the color changes.”

## **To Greet the Sun**

### **Katherine Hoover (1937-2018)**

Flutist, composer, poet, and conductor Katherine Hoover is the winner of the 2016 National Flute Association's Lifetime Achievement award and former faculty at the Juilliard School and the Manhattan School of Music. Much of her work is abstract, contemporary, and inspired by indigenous music. Like much of her music, this piece is romantic, elegant, and breaks free of traditional time and meter. Hoover writes, "To greet the sun is to give thanks for the great richness of the Earth and the gift of life. Various cultures have done this in differing ways, from dawn prayers to dances and ceremonies to researching the sun's awe-inspiring power."

## **Duo for Flute and Piano**

### **Aaron Copland (1900-1990)**

Referred to often as the "Dean of American Composers," Aaron Copland writes quintessential examples of music with "American" sound, often featuring slow-moving, open harmonies that evoke the vast landscape and pioneer spirit. The work was commissioned by friends and students of William Kincaid, former principal flute of the Philadelphia Orchestra, after his death in 1967. Copland described the work as lyrical and pastoral and said, "Lyricism seems to be built into the flute... The whole is a work of comparatively simple harmonic and melodic outline, direct in expression. Being aware that many of the flutists who were responsible for commissioning the piece would want to play it, I tried to make it grateful for the performer... it requires a good player."

# ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

A poised and dynamic flutist, Paige Michaud has begun a budding career of performing and teaching that has taken her across the United States and abroad. The youngest competitors in their field, Michaud and her former duo partner, Yimeng Xu, won first prize at the 2021 Puerto Rico International Collaborative Piano Competition with their polished performance of music by Samuel Zyman and Amy Beach. She attended the 2021 Flauti al Castello Festival in Anghiari, Tuscany, Italy and was invited as a featured performer to the XIV Festival Flautas del Mundo in Mendoza, Argentina. In 2022, Michaud won first prize in both the Nebraska Wind Symphony Concerto Competition and the Lincoln Symphony Young Artist Competition.

As the former principal flute of the Heartland Philharmonic Orchestra and member of the Heartland Flute Choir, Michaud was invited to participate in the commission of “Oxygen for 144 Flutes” by Julia Wolfe at the 2022 National Flute Association Convention. A passionate proponent of women’s issues, diversity, equity, and inclusion, Paige’s article, “Misogyny in Mozart: Is Le Nozze di Figaro Truly About Figaro?” was published in the Summer 2021 edition of the Nebraska Music Teacher Association newsletter. Michaud holds a Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance and a minor in Spanish Language and Literature from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, where she studied with Dr. Christine Beard, and is currently pursuing a Master of Music from the University of Colorado Boulder with Professor Christina Jennings.

Born in Genova, Italian pianist Luca Pompilio pursued his undergraduate studies in Italy. He completed a BM in Piano cum laude in 2019 and a BS in Physics in 2021 (in Pavia), then a three-year diploma in chamber music (flute and piano duo) in Florence in 2023, studying with Pier Narciso Masi. In the US, he completed an MM in piano performance at SHSU in Texas, as a student of Dr Diego Caetano, with a teaching assistantship. Since 2024, he’s a Doctoral student in piano performance and a teaching assistant at University of Colorado Boulder, where his main teacher is Dr David Korevaar. His other main piano teachers have been Roberto Paruzzo, Cinzia Piccini, Barbara Cristina and Anna Zucchi.

Pompilio has performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist in Italy, Spain, Switzerland and the United States—from Alaska to Texas—and he has won prizes in international competitions in Europe and America. Recent prestigious prizes include alternate winner at the 2024 MTNA Young Artist piano competition in Colorado, and second place at the VII Robert B. Beardsley Piano Competition at Ruthmere Museum in Elkhart, IN (2023). In 2024, he studied and performed as a young artist at “Art of the Piano” festival at SFCM, and at Sion Académie and Festival in Switzerland. Next summer, Luca will attend the 2025 Aspen Music Festival and School with a fellowship. Luca is a member of the CU Boulder collegiate chapter of MTNA and of the Scriabin Society of America.



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