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# Faculty Recital, Erin Lesser, piccolo and flute, April 10, 2016

Lawrence University

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# Faculty Recital

**Erin Lesser, piccolo and flute**

Matthew Michelic, viola

Michael Mizrahi, harpsichord and piano

**Sunday, April 10, 2016**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Harper Hall**

Nidi

Franco Donatoni  
(1927-2000)

Erin Lesser, piccolo

*Walking Song*

Kevin Volans  
(b. 1949)

Erin Lesser, flute  
Michael Mizrahi, harpsichord  
Dane Richeson, Sean Goldman, Jake Victor, and Matthew Michelic,  
handclapping

*Fili*

Donatoni

Erin Lesser, flute  
Michael Mizrahi, piano

*Trio*

Bohuslav Martinů  
(1890-1959)

Poco allegretto  
Adagio  
Andante. Allegretto scherzando

Erin Lesser, flute  
Matthew Michelic, viola  
Michael Mizrahi, piano

### **Erin Lesser**

As a soloist, and chamber musician Erin has been described as “superb,” “excellent,” and “elegant” by the *New York Times*. She has travelled to prestigious venues around the world including Carnegie Hall, Walt Disney Hall, the Muziekgebouw aan ’t IJ (Amsterdam) and Alice Tully Hall where she performed the American premiere of Morton Feldman’s *Flute and Orchestra* with the Janacek Philharmonic Orchestra. She has worked with some of the most prominent classical and popular artists today including Steve Reich, Beat Furrer, Helmut Lachenmann, Pierre Boulez, John Luther Adams, Charles Wuorinen, and David Lang, and experimental groups like Medeski Martin and Wood, and the Dirty Projectors. As a recording artist,

Erin can be heard on Nonesuch, Cantaloupe, Carrier, Hat[now] Art, New Focus, Aeon, New Amsterdam, Albany and Capstone Record labels.

Erin is a member of Alarm Will Sound, a group that has been awarded the ASCAP Concert Music Award for “the virtuosity, passion and commitment with which they perform and champion the repertory for the 21st century” and which has been called the “future of classical music” by the *New York Times*. She is also a member of Wet Ink, a group that has been described as “thought-provoking and expansive and fearless in testing the limitations of what instruments or musical forms can be.” She has performed and recorded extensively with the Argento Chamber Ensemble and Due East.

Lesser completed a two-year fellowship with The Academy, a program run by Carnegie Hall, the Juilliard School and the Weill Music Institute. She is now a member of Decoda, an affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall, whose work often takes them beyond the concert hall and into the broader community.

A graduate of the University of Ottawa and the Manhattan School of Music, Erin is proud to serve on the faculty at Lawrence University. Through a partnership between Lawrence University and Decoda, Erin is co-founder of *Music for All*, a program which brings music into new and/or underserved venues throughout the Fox Valley community in Wisconsin.

Ms. Lesser is a Pearl Flute Performing Artist.

### **Michael Mizrahi**

Praised as “intrepid” (*Philadelphia Inquirer*), “engaging” (*Houston Chronicle*), and “endlessly fascinating” (*WQXR New York*), pianist Michael Mizrahi has won acclaim for his compelling performances of a wide-ranging repertoire and his ability to connect with audiences of all ages. He has appeared as concerto soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, and teaching artist across the United States and abroad.

Mr. Mizrahi has performed in the world’s leading concert halls including Carnegie Hall, Toyko’s Suntory Hall, the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, Jordan Hall and the Gardner Museum in Boston, the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the Chicago Cultural Center and Houston’s Jones Hall. He has performed as soloist with major orchestras including the Houston Symphony, National Symphony, Haddonfield Symphony, Sioux City Symphony, and Prince Georges Philharmonic. He has given solo recitals at the Phillips Collection in Washington, DC and has made repeated appearances on the Dame Myra Hess Concert Series in Chicago. His

chamber music festival appearances include Music@Menlo, Verbier, the Yellow Barn Music Festival, and the Steans Institute at the Ravinia Festival. Mr. Mizrahi won First Prize and the Audience Choice Award in the Ima Hogg International Competition, as well as first prizes in the International Bartók-Kabalevsky Competition and the Iowa International Piano Competition. He won third prize in the San Antonio International Piano Competition. Mr. Mizrahi appeared for many years on the active roster of Astral Artists.

Michael Mizrahi received his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, where his concentrations were in music, religion and physics. He holds master's and doctoral degrees from the Yale School of Music, where he studied with Claude Frank.

Recognized widely for his commitment to artistic excellence, Michael Mizrahi won Lawrence University's Award for Excellence in Creative Activity, and, in 2014, was one of five international recipients of the S&R Foundation's Washington Award.

### **Matthew Michelic**

Matthew Michelic enjoys a diverse musical career as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral player and teacher. He has been praised in the *Denver Post* as projecting “an extraordinarily rich viola sound”, and the *Milwaukee Sentinel* viewed his performance of Hindemith's *Trauermusik* as a “touching, masterful interpretation”. Mr. Michelic has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout North America, Europe and in Asia and he has collaborated with artists such as Robert McDonald, Jeffrey Solow, the Amelia Piano Trio, the Prometheus Trio, the Fine Arts Quartet, and the Capela Quartet of Portugal. Mr. Michelic has served on the faculty of numerous music festivals in the United States and Canada and has presented master classes at major schools of music including Oberlin College and the Peabody School of Music. Recently he has presented research at the national conference of the American String Teachers Association, and his discussions of string pedagogy have been published in the *Journal of the American Viola Society* and in *Strings* magazine.

Currently Mr. Michelic serves on the faculty of the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music, where his teaching activities include viola, chamber music coaching, orchestral literature for strings and an upper-level course focused on the history of the string quartet. The former students of Mr. Michelic now teach in public school, community school and university settings and perform in professional chamber and orchestral ensembles in the United States, Europe and Australia.