



Faculty Recital

Joana Genova, violin
with guest artist Willis Delony, piano

Stephen Dankner
(b. 1944)

Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano

Adagio
Allegro molto
Tempo di tango
Poco meno mosso

Fred Hersch
(b. 1955)

Tango Bittersweet

****Brief pause****

Willis Delony
(b. 1957)

Summer Waltz

Willis Delony

Capriccio (world premiere)

Stephen Dankner

Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano

Wednesday, October 19, 2022
7:30 p.m.

Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

See music.williams.edu for full details and additional happenings as well as to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

Upcoming Events

Williams Chamber Players

Fri Oct 21 | Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall | 7:30 PM

Prof. Yayoi Uno Everett - Class of 1960 Music Lecture

Wed Oct 26 | Bernhard Music Center, room 30 | 4:15 PM

Berkshire Symphony

Fri Oct 28 | Chapin Hall | 7:30 PM

Please turn off cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.

ARTISTS

Bulgarian-born violinist **Joana Genova** has built a diverse career as a chamber and orchestral musician, soloist, and pedagogue. She is co-artistic director of Taconic Music in Manchester, Vermont, Artist Associate at Williams College, Assistant Professor at the University of Indianapolis, Violin Instructor at Bennington College and Adjunct Professor at Montclair State University. Joana is the second violinist of The Indianapolis Quartet, concertizes with Williams and Taconic Chamber Players, and appears as a frequent guest at festivals and concert series. She has performed internationally in Bulgaria, Holland, Germany, Italy, and Bosnia-Herzegovina and has enjoyed collaborations with the Shanghai Quartet, Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, Horszowski Trio, Enso Quartet, Toby Appel, Andrés Cárdenes, Carmit Zori, Nathaniel Rosen, Nathaniel Parke, Michael Haber, Danwen Jiang, Austin Hartman, Renee Jolles, Michael Rudiakov, Tom Landschoot, Sophie Shao, Jon Klibonoff, Ruth Laredo, Davide Cabassi, David Krakauer, Deborah Buck, Drew Petersen, among others.

Her recordings include Chamber Music of Vittorio Giannini (MSR Classics), Vision: Music of the 20th and 21st Centuries (Eroica Classical Recordings) and Four Seasons x2: Piazzolla and Vivaldi (Manchester Music Festival), Reflections and Whimsies: Chamber Music for Strings and Voice by Frank Felice and Robert Paterson's String Quartets 1-3. She has appeared live on GNAT-TV and CAT-TV in Vermont, Wish TV Indianapolis, WQXR Albany, Vermont Public Radio-Live, WBAA and WICR in Indiana.

As soloist, Joana has been featured with the Metropolitan, Rockaway, Danbury, and Berkshire symphonies, Adelphi Chamber Orchestra, Harlem Chamber Players, Manchester Festival Orchestra, Yonkers Philharmonic, and under the baton of Raymond Leppard with the University of Indianapolis Gala Orchestra. She was concertmaster of the Amsterdam Bach Consort, a member of Amsterdam Sinfonietta, Brooklyn Philharmonic and New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and assistant concertmaster of Carmel Symphony Orchestra in Indiana. Currently Joana is principal second violin of the Berkshire Symphony Orchestra in Massachusetts, and guest concertmaster of Sage City Symphony in Bennington.

Joana made her solo debut at age 12 with the Plovdiv Chamber Orchestra and is a top prizewinner of the Svetoslav Obretenov National Competition in Bulgaria. She earned her bachelor's degree at the Conservatory of Amsterdam and her master's in chamber music at the Rotterdam Conservatory. Her teachers include Boyanka Shopova, Alexander Spirov, Peter Brunt, Ilya Grubert, and Samuel Thaviu. Joana performs on a Johannes Cuypers violin made in The Hague in 1786.

In a performing career spanning over four decades, pianist **Willis Delony** has won acclaim as one of the nation's leading classical/jazz crossover artists. His innovative concert explorations of the two musical worlds are showcased in a series of solo piano recordings on the Centaur label. A New World A' Comin' – Classical and Jazz Connections was released in 2001. Double Dance – Classical and Jazz Connections II was released in 2008. Out of Character – Classical and Jazz Connections III, was released in October 2014. Also part of the series is an independent release from 2018 entitled Butterfly Room – Connections for Solo Piano. The project continues with Between the Notes, which was released by Centaur on November 5, 2021. Previous album credits include a recording of sonatas by Samuel Barber and Sergei Prokofiev, also on the Centaur label, and a jazz album entitled Civilized Conversations, featuring Delony and bassist Bill Grimes. He collaborated with bassoonist William Ludwig on the Mark Records release, Rhapsody in Bassoon, which features the world premiere recording of André Previn's Sonata for Bassoon and Piano. He also appears with oboist Johanna Cox Pennington on her album Orion Nocturne on the Albany label. Delony has appeared as piano soloist, guest pianist/arranger or conductor with orchestras throughout the United States as well as orchestras in Canada, the former Soviet Union and China. As a solo and collaborative recitalist, he has performed classical and jazz concerts throughout the U.S. as well as France, Germany, the former Soviet Union, Mexico, Costa Rica, Brazil and Argentina. He has performed with many of the nation's leading jazz artists and is co-host/pianist for Louisiana State University's popular concert series Hot Summer Nights – Cool Jazz. His pops orchestra arrangements have been performed throughout the U.S. and Canada, including over 50 scores written for the Minneapolis-based jazz vocal quintet Five By Design, with whom he has recorded two albums. He has worked for many years with Baton Rouge producer/sound engineer Joey Decker of Disk Productions, co-creating dozens of award-winning commercial soundtracks for clients nationwide. He collaborates regularly with leading contemporary composers, having premiered the Concerto for Piano and Orchestra by Stephen Dankner with the LSU Symphony Orchestra in 2015. He has recorded and performed solo piano works by Paris-based American composer Joseph Makholm, as well as solo piano works by jazz composer Les Hooper. In January 2017, he premiered Greg Yasinitsky's Jazz Concerto for Piano and Orchestra with the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra. In part due to the strength of this performance, the work was awarded The American Prize in composition. A series of 2018 performances in Paris featured his lecture/recital on the music of Bill Evans at the IMEP Paris College of Music as well as a solo recital at the Bill Evans Piano Academy. During the 2021-22 season he has been featured soloist in a performance of Florence Price's Concerto for Piano with the LSU Symphony, and in a performance of Igor Stravinsky's Concerto for Piano and Winds with the LSU Wind Ensemble as part of Louisiana State University's international festival, Stravinsky In America.

Delony is the Boyd Professor of Piano and Jazz Studies in the School of Music at Louisiana State University, where he has been a member of the music faculty since 2000. From 1986-2000 he served on the music faculty at Southeastern Louisiana University and is a former member of the music faculty at Delta State University. He is a past recipient of an Artist Fellowship awarded by the Louisiana Division of the Arts, as well as the Edith Kirkpatrick Arts Leadership Award given by the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra. He received the LSU Distinguished Faculty Award in 2019 and was chosen as the SEC Professor of the Year for LSU in 2020.