In the summer of 2008, Shawn was appointed Principal Oboist of the New
York Symphonic Ensemble, performing annual summer concert tours across
Japan. He has also performed with the Baltimore Symphony, Milwaukee Sym-
phony, Kennedy Center Opera, Washington Concert Artists, Tulsa Philhar-
monic, Aspen Festival Orchestra, and the Staunton Music Festival. An active
chamber musician, Shawn is a core member of D.C.'s acclaimed Fessenden
Ensemble and Richmond's innovative Atlantic Chamber Ensemble.

Shawn holds performance degrees from the University of Oklahoma and the
Eastman School of Music and has served on the VCU faculty since 2009.

TRACY COWDEN, associate professor of piano and vocal coach at Vir-
ginia Tech, has appeared as soloist with the Roanoke Symphony Or-
chestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Southwest Virginia, the Central Ohio
Symphony Orchestra, and the Virginia Tech Symphonic Wind Ensemble.
As a collaborative pianist, Cowden frequently performs with a diverse
array of soloists and chamber ensembles, including recent concerts with
the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's principal flutist Mathieu Dufour, tenor
Vinson Cole, and soprano Elizabeth Futral as well as performances at the
2014 Mid-Atlantic Flute Fair, the 2012 College Music Society National
Conference and at the 2012 International Trumpet Guild. Cowden has pre-
viously performed with The Great Noise Ensemble, the Cavani Quartet, the
Audubon Quartet, and the Carpe Diem String Quartet, and is a frequent
performer at the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival.

Cowden is the chair of the music program in the School of Perform-
ing Arts at Virginia Tech, where she has been honored for her work as
a teacher with a Certificate of Teaching Excellence from the College of
Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Her students have been accepted into
graduate programs at the Eastman School of Music, the University of
South Carolina, and the University of North Carolina Greensboro, and cur-
cent student Travis Whaley was accepted into the 2014 International Bach
Competition in Leipzig, Germany.

Also active as a clinician and lecturer, she has presented master classes and
workshops on topics related to collaborative music-making and creative
programming at national conferences for both the Music Teachers National
Association (MTNA) and the College Music Society (CMS), as well as in
Virginia, Michigan, and Ohio. Cowden is a Nationally Certified Teacher of
Music through MTNA, and also currently serves on the Editorial Board for
American Music Teacher, the journal published by MTNA. Cowden is a pas-
sionate advocate for new music, and has premiered many new chamber
works as soloist and with colleagues around the country. Recent projects
include the commissioning of the song cycle Vegetable Verselets from
composer Daron Aric Hagen, and Confronting Inertia, a recording of new
works for trumpet and piano with John Adler, released by Origin Classical.

A Michigan native, Cowden has previously served as a faculty member at
Ohio Wesleyan University, Kalamazoo College and Hope College. She
received the D.M.A. and M.M. degrees in piano accompanying and cham-
ber music from the Eastman School of Music, and a B.M. degree in piano
performance from Western Michigan University.

FACULTY RECITAL

TABATHA EASLEY
flute
&
SHAWN WELK
obo

with TRACY COWDEN, piano

Monday, October 20, 2014 | 7 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
922 Park Avenue | Richmond, Virginia
arts.vcu.edu/music
TABATHA EASLEY & SHAWN WELK
Monday, October 20, 2014 | 7 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

PROGRAM

Impromptu No.1 for Flute and Oboe................. Thea Musgrave (b. 1928)

Sonatine pour hautbois et piano.................. Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)
Modéré
Mouvement de Menuet
Animé

transcription by David Walter

Sonata for flute and piano............................ Samuel Zyman (b. 1956)
Allegro assai
Lento e molto espressivo
Presto

Trio for flute, oboe, and piano ....................... Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)
Allegro
Adagio
Allegro
Allegro molto

The use of photography and recording equipment of any kind is strictly prohibited. Please silence all electronic devices.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

TABATHA EASLEY is Assistant Professor of Flute at VCU and is also the Director of Richmond Flute Fest. Currently performing with the Richmond, Williamsburg, and Virginia Symphonies, Ms. Easley has also served as principal flutist of the Charlottesville Symphony, played regularly with the Buffalo Philharmonic, Lancaster Symphony Orchestra, and was a member of the Fairbanks Symphony and Arctic Chamber Orchestras in Alaska.

Having concertized and given masterclasses across the U.S. and in South America, she has also been a soloist with the Fairbanks Symphony, Astoria Sinfonia in NY, the Cole Conservatory of Music Orchestra, Orange County High School for the Performing Arts Orchestra, and the VCU Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

Active in several professional organizations, Ms. Easley is the competition coordinator for the Collegiate Flute Choir Competition. She presented at the College Music Society International Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina in June, 2013 and gave two presentations at the College Music Society National Conference in 2011. Ms. Easley has also presented at the National Association of College Wind & Percussion Instructors National Conference in California and was co-host this past year for the “NACWPI” conference in Richmond, VA. Additionally, she serves on the Board of the Flute Society of Washington and was program chair for the MidAtlantic Flute Fair in 2009.

Ms. Easley holds a doctoral degree from the Eastman School of Music; the first Alaskan to do so. Other degrees include California State University at Long Beach (M.A.) and the University of Alaska Fairbanks (B. Music Education and Performance). Former teachers include Bonita Boyd, Michael Parloff, Martha Aarons, Dr. John Barcellona, and Dorli McWayne. For more info: www.tabatheaasley.com

A native of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, SHAWN WELK was appointed Acting Principal Oboe of the Florida Orchestra for the 2013-2014 season. Since 2008, he served as Assistant Principal Oboe and Principal English of the Richmond Symphony, following a seven year tenure as Co-Principal oboe of the “President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

During his years with the “President’s Own,” Shawn performed concerts at the White House, Washington D.C. Metro area, overseas, and across the United States as soloist, chamber player, and principal musician. His solo appearances included performances of John Harbison’s “Concerto for Oboe, Clarinet and String Orchestra,” Frank Martin’s “Trios Danses for Oboe, Harp and Strings,” and J.S. Bach’s “Concerto for Oboe and Violin,” all with the Marine Chamber Orchestra.

With the Richmond Symphony, Shawn served as soloist, chamber musician, and educational program leader, where he designed innovative music education shows for elementary and middle school students, commissioned new chamber works, and arranged music for the Richmond Symphony Woodwind Quartet.