

FACULTY RECITAL

**SONIA VLAHCEVIC**  
*piano*

*with special guest*

**JUSTIN ALEXANDER**  
*percussion*

Sunday, October 5, 2014 | 4 p.m.

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall  
W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts  
922 Park Avenue | Richmond, Virginia

**[arts.vcu.edu/music](http://arts.vcu.edu/music)**



**VCU**

**PROGRAM**

Mazurka in A minor ..... ANDRZEJ DUTKIEWICZ (b, 1942)

Four Mazurki ..... FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN (1810-1849)  
Op. 50, No. 3, in C-sharp minor  
Op. 24, No. 1 in G minor  
Op. 30, No. 2 in B minor  
Op. 41, No. 1 in C-sharp minor

Berçeuse, Op. 57 in D-flat major ..... FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

Sonatina ..... BÉLA BARTÓK (1881-1945)  
Bagpipe  
Bear Dance  
Finale

Allegro Barbaro ..... BÉLA BARTÓK

Toccata ..... PAL KAROLYI (b, 1953)

**SHORT PAUSE**

Genesis ..... DANA WILSON (b. 1946)  
1. ...Out of the Primordial Soup  
2. ...Percussion Interlude  
3. ...Into the Light

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

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**SONIA VLAHCEVIC** received her Bachelor of Music degree with honors and Master of Music degree in piano pedagogy from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Mass. While a graduate student at the conservatory, Vlahcevic was awarded graduate assistantships in music history, solfeggio and theory. She earned her doctorate in theory from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Her dissertation topic involved a stylistic analysis of Sergei Prokofiev's sonatas for piano. In addition, she completed post-graduate studies in piano with Zbigniew Drzewiecki, head of the Chopin Institute in Warsaw, Poland, and Stig Ribling, piano faculty at the States Higher School of Music in Stockholm, Sweden. Before coming to VCU, Vlahcevic held faculty appointments at the New England Conservatory of Music, where she taught theory at the college level, and at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Her performances include numerous two-piano recitals, lecture recitals and solo piano concerts, including a 2005 lecture-recital in Alcala de Henares, Spain at the College Music Society International Conference. In 2006 she performed at the International Arts and Humanities Conference in Hawaii followed by other presentations in 2008 and 2014 in Hawaii. In addition, she presented lecture-recitals at the College Music Society International Conference in Bangkok, Thailand in 2007 and in Zagreb, Croatia in 2009, Korea in 2011 and Argentina in 2013. She also performed at an international conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2009.

At VCU, Vlahcevic has had an active role in teaching and advising students. As professor of music, she teaches courses in form and analysis, advanced 20th Century aural skills, music since 1945, analysis for performance and other original course topics.

**JUSTIN ALEXANDER** is currently Visiting Assistant Professor of Percussion at Virginia Commonwealth University, where he teaches applied lessons, percussion methods and techniques, percussion pedagogy, and directs the VCU Percussion Ensemble. Prior to his appointment at VCU, he served as Adjunct Instructor of Percussion at Troy University, teaching applied lessons and assisting with the Troy University Percussion Ensemble, winners of the 2012 Percussive Arts Society International Percussion Ensemble Competition.

An active and diverse performer, Justin has given recitals, clinics, and master classes throughout the United States. He has performed and presented at conferences held by The Percussive Arts Society, The College Music Society, The National Association of Wind and Percussion Instructors, as well as numerous "Days of Percussion"

festivals across the country. He co-founded and performed with the Denkyem Percussion Group at the “Promising Artists of the 21st Century” Festival held at the North American Cultural Center in Costa Rica and performed with the Santo Domingo Music Festival in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He has performed with the The Florida Orchestra, The Aspen Festival Orchestra, The Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, The Eastern Philharmonic Orchestra in Greensboro, North Carolina, and the Tallahassee Symphony.

Justin has commissioned and premiered works by composers such as John Luther Adams, Christopher Adler, Blake Tyson, Halim El-Dahb, Brian Nozny, Ian Dicke, and Nathaniel Bartlett, and can be heard on Nathaniel Bartlett’s new release, *Far Reaches*, The Florida State University Percussion Ensemble’s *Volume One* and *Volume Two*, and Omar Carmenate’s *The Gaia Project*. As a co-founder of Garnet House Productions, Justin’s work as an audio engineer can be heard on Blake Tyson’s newly released *Firefish*, Thomas Burritt’s *Groundlines*, Omar Carmenate’s *The Gaia Project*, and Line Upon Line Percussion’s self-titled debut. In addition, Justin’s arrangement of *From My Little Island* for percussion ensemble was premiered by the Florida State University Percussion Ensemble at the 2011 Percussive Arts Society International Convention.

Active in the Percussive Arts Society, Justin has had articles published in *Percussive Notes*, the official research journal of the Percussive Arts Society, and currently serves on the PAS Drum Set and University Pedagogy Committees. He served as chair of the PAS University Committee from 2009-2012.

Justin holds the Doctor of Music Degree in Percussion Performance from The Florida State University. His primary teachers include Dr. John W. Parks IV, Dr. Blake Tyson, and Prof. Leon Anderson.

Justin is a proud endorser of Pearl/Adams Musical Instruments, Zildjian Cymbals, and Innovative Percussion sticks and mallets.