

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 Symphony, Kennedy Center Opera, Washington Concert Artists, Tulsa Philharmonic, 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 Virginia Tech, has appeared as soloist with the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra, 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 previously 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 Performing 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 current 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 passionate 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 chamber music from the Eastman School of Music, and a B.M. degree in piano performance from Western Michigan University.

**vcuarts  
MUSIC**

FACULTY RECITAL

**TABATHA EASLEY**

*flute*

&

**SHAWN WELK**

*oboe*

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





## PROGRAM

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

Sonatine pour hautbois et piano.....Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Modéré transcription by David Walter  
Mouvement de Menuet  
Animé

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.tabatheasley.com](http://www.tabatheasley.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.