

Vicente Della Tonia, Jr. has performed in concert halls throughout the United States, Spain and Brazil. He has received top prize awards in competitions such as the XXI Concurso Latino-Americano de Piano "Rosa Mística," and the 23rd Concurso Nacional de Piano "Paulo Giovanini." A dedicated researcher, Vicente has presented on piano pedagogy and literature with an emphasis on first year of study, collaborative playing, group instruction, improvisation, and the works of American and Latin American composers. As a presenter, he has given lectures and workshops at VII Coloquio do Seminario Permanente de História y Música (Mexico City), as well as at the MTNA's national and state conferences in Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, Nevada, Texas, South Carolina, and Washington. A recent recipient of the Steinway & Sons's Top Teacher Award of the Year, Della Tonia currently teaches piano and coordinates the keyboard studies at Georgia State University in Clarkston, Ga.

Unique in the classical music world due to its dedication to works for violin and cello ensemble, **Duo-B** is quickly earning praise for their passionate musical commitment, creative style, and original programming. Founded in 2009, with the chance meeting of a Japanese violinist (Hirono) and an American cellist (Philip) in Germany, their fascination with travel, innovative styles of music-making, and each other soon led them down creative and unexpected paths that later resulted in the forming of Duo-B. While graduate students at the Eastman School of Music, a diversion from their classical training led them to explore music from diverse cultures, including folk traditions of Appalachia, Europe, Japan, and South America. Together they have toured across Asia, Europe, and North America. In addition to performing rarely heard classical masterpieces alongside lesser-known works, a great emphasis is placed on the communicative power and remarkable intimacy found in the string duo.

Experiencing Villa-Lobos Upcoming Events

Cuarteto Latinoamericano, *Mary Anne Rennolds Concert Series*

Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

\$35 General Admission; \$32 Seniors (60+) / VCU Employees / VCU Alumni

Association members; \$25 Children (16 and under)

Free for VCU Music students and VCU Music faculty – Email musictix@vcu.edu to reserve

Department of Music | School of the Arts | Virginia Commonwealth University

922 Park Avenue, Room 132 | P.O. Box 842004 | Richmond, VA 23284-2004

(804) 828-1166 | music@vcu.edu | arts.vcu.edu/music

vcuarts | music

Experiencing Villa-Lobos

Visiting Artist Showcase

The Music of Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 5 p.m.

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

Virginia Commonwealth University

Richmond, VA

arts.vcu.edu/music



Program

All works by Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

Three Pieces from Ciclo Brasileiro, 1936

- No. 1: Plantio do Caboclo - Native Planting Song
- No. 2: Impressões Seresteiras - Minstrel Impressions
- No. 3: Festa no Sertão - Jungle Festival

Charles Foreman, piano

Sonata Fantasia No. 2, 1914

- I. Allegro non troppo
- II. Largo
- III. Rondo – Allegro Finale

duo526

Futaba Niekawa, piano & Kerry DuWors, violin

O Canto do Cisne Negro (*Song of the Black Swan*)

Solo piano transcription by Francisco Mignone

Prelude from *Bachianas Brasileiras* No. 4

Canto do Sertão (*Chant of the Hinterland*)

Chorale from *Bachianas Brasileiras* No. 4

José Carlos Vasconcellos, piano

Prole do Bebe N. 1

- Branquinha (A boneca de louça)
- Moreninha (A boneca de massa)
- Caboclinha (A boneca de barro)
- Mulatinha (A boneca de borracha)
- Negrinha (A boneca de pau)
- A Pobrezinha (A boneca de trapo)
- O Polichinelo
- A Bruxa (A boneca de pano)

Vicente Della Tonia, Jr., piano

Chôro típico - arr. Hirono Borter

Chôros (bis)

- I. Moderé
- II. Lent - animé

Duo-B

Hirono Borter, violin & Philip Lawrence Borter, cello

Praised for his superb musicianship, formidable technique, vast repertoire, and imaginative programming, pianist **Charles Foreman** has created several recital series concluding Canada's first complete cycle of the solo piano works of Chopin in March 2009. He completed his first cycle of the 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in 2005 to sold-out houses and standing ovations, a series he repeated from February 2015 to May 2016. In 2001, Foreman concluded his two-season "Sounds of a Century" project, 10 recitals of 20th-century piano music, one for each decade.

Foreman made his debut in 1972 with the Chicago Civic Orchestra conducted by David Gilbert, playing the Brahms B-flat Concerto. Since then, he has won prizes in Canadian and U.S. piano competitions, received two Canada Council grants for study and performance in Europe, performed over 30 times with orchestras, and played over 740 solo and chamber recitals in Austria, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Canada, and the U.S.

duo526: Known for her verve and sensitivity, Japanese pianist **Futaba Niekawa** pushes the boundaries of her artistry as a soloist and collaborative pianist across genres and disciplines. Niekawa has performed throughout the United States, Canada, England, Spain, Taiwan, and Japan. Her creative projects have led her to artist residencies at the Banff Centre and Avaloch Farm Music Institute with duo526 as well as three released recordings (PARMA Recordings, Petrichor Records). As a seasoned collaborative pianist, Niekawa has been engaged at the Banff Centre, New England Conservatory, Boston Ballet School, Meadowmount School of Music, and the IU Summer String Academy. Niekawa earned her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music. Dedicated to pedagogy and mentoring, she shares her passion through masterclasses and workshops at duo526's annual Sonata Seminar. Since 2015, Niekawa has been on the faculty for chamber and collaborative music at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music.

A musical adventurer and musician-athlete, acclaimed Canadian violinist **Kerry DuWors** has performed in world-class concert halls across four continents. In demand as a versatile chamber musician, DuWors champions collaboration in an array of ensembles from her duo work to leading chamber orchestras. Performances with duo526, James Ehnes, Yo-Yo Ma, Dame Evelyn Glennie and The Knights. Praised for "always finding the music behind the notes" and her "fearless competence" (Winnipeg Free Press), she has been soloist with the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Winnipeg Symphony, Saskatoon Symphony, Red Deer Symphony, and Manitoba Chamber Orchestra. Curiosity drives DuWors' dedicated academic and musical pursuits through creative projects, artist residencies (Banff Centre, Avaloch Farm Music Institute, Indiana University), commissions, premières, masterclasses, and community outreach. Her mentors include Lorand Fenyves, Charles Castleman, Scott St. John, Jean Barr, and the Lafayette String Quartet. Committed to pedagogy and mentorship, DuWors has been associate professor and chair of graduate studies in music at Brandon University since 2003.

José Carlos Vasconcellos dos Reis studied the piano under the guidance of professors Aracy Pereira da Silva (with whom he also played many 2 pianos recitals), Luiz de Moura Castro and Myrian Dauelsberg. He participated in several International Music Festivals (Portugal, Spain and Italy), in which he studied with masters such as Helena Sá e Costa (Portugal) and Ludovica Mosca (Barcelona), and also played in recitals and concerts, always giving special attention to Brazilian music. Since 2014, he plays regularly in the "Música no Museu" Project, with recitals in prestigious auditoriums of Rio de Janeiro. He played recently in Portugal (Foz Palace, in Lisbon; University of Coimbra) and Germany (Brazilian Embassy, in Berlin). Because of a thesis on Villa-Lobos' piano works, in 2016 he became a member of the National Academy of Music, in Rio de Janeiro.