The Northwest Edvard Grieg Society presents



Celebrating a Norwgian immigrant who made Honolulu home.

March 9, 2024 at 11:30 am Hawaii Public Library, Honolulu

Program

String Quartet

Alf Hurum (1882-1972)

I. Allegro non troppo e maestoso II. Scherzo. Vivo e molto allegro III. Canzonetta. Andantino IV. Allegro energico - Presto

Northwest Edvard Grieg

Society

Duane Padilla & Rachel Saul, violin, Anna Womack, viola, & Kathleen Long, cello

Silhouet

Steven Luksan, piano

Til min Gyldenlak (To my Wallflower) Regn (Rain) Genrebillede (Genre-picture)

Laura Loge, soprano & Steven Luksan, piano

Poem

Steven Luksan, piano

Det var en deilig hane (There was a Handsome Rooster) Græd kun, du blege (Just cry, pallid child) Nocturne Fandango

Laura Loge, soprano & Steven Luksan, piano

Violinist **Duane Padilla** began classical violin lessons at age 4, and went on to earn degrees from Yale University and Northwestern University. While a student, he earned fellowships to perform with the National Repertoire Orchestra and the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra. In 1995, he founded The Gemini Duo, which earned outreach grants from Chamber Music America and the American Federation of Musicians and was featured on the Connecticut Commission on the Arts Performing Artist Roster and the CMA Rural Residency Artist Roster. For 15 years Duane performed as an orchestral musician, first with the Waterbury Symphony and New Haven Symphony Orchestras and later with the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra. Intrigued by the idea of jazz and improvisation, Duane started sitting in with some of Honolulu's hottest local jazz artists. In 2009 he founded the Hot Club of Hulaville, a "jazz manouche" band centered around 30's era swing and the music of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli. Honolulu Magazine voted the ensemble Best Band for Hire in 2011. Their debut album Django Would Go! topped the Roots Music Reports's national radio/internet airplay chart at #1 and won The Hawaii Academy of Recording Arts most prestigious Na Hoku Hano Hano Award for Jazz Album of the Year. Recent improvisatory performances include Texas Sock Hop swing with Academy of Western Artists Female Performer of the Year Devon Dawson. At Hawaii Public Radio's Saturday afternoon concert series, he joined various visiting guest artists in concerts as diverse as Hindustani Ragas and Celtic reels and gigs. His playing is also featured on the albums of numerous Hawaiian Pop stars, including, Amy Hanalii Gilliom, Uluwehi Gurrerro, and Kapala.

Violinist **Rachel Saul Schifino** performs and teaches with an enthusiastic passion for music and its life changing benefits. She has performed with the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra since 2012, along with the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Tucson Symphony Orchestra, Boston Philharmonic and in 2022 was appointed Concertmaster to the Maui Chamber Orchestra. She received her Bachelor of Music from Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music on full scholarship, and her Master of Music from Boston University College of Fine Arts. She performed for several summers with the American Institute of Musical Studies Festival Orchestra in Graz, Austria. In 2006, she was featured as a soloist with the Tucson Pops Orchestra. Throughout the last decade in Hawai'i Nei, Rachel has performed and recorded with international superstars such as Jack Johnson, Eminem, Ron Artis II, Makana, Taimane, Mike Love, Paula Fuga and more! Rachel is featured on the 2020 Na Hoku Hanohano "Music Video of the Year." She is also a passionate educator for the youth in Hawai'i; in 2013 she founded the After-School Strings Program at Mid-Pacific Institute and worked with underserved youth as a Teaching Artist with Kalikolehua – El Sistema Hawai'i. She maintains an active private violin studio and teaches Chamber Music at Punahou Music School. Rachel was selected as one of the eight 2023 8x8 Shangri La Performing Artists, where she composed and recorded an original work for solo violin.

A member of the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra and the University of Hawaii faculty since 1995, violist **Anna Womack** is a member of Chamber Music Hawaii's Galliard String Quartet and is a core performer with Pacific International Concert Artists. As a proponent of new music, she has premiered numerous chamber and solo works. Anna is also active as an educator, maintaining a private studio in Hawaii Kai and serving as a clinician at school music programs across the island. She holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Furman University and master's degree in viola performance from Northwestern University. She enjoys tennis and hiking in her spare time.

Originally from the province of Saskatchewan, Canadian native **Kathleen Long** is currently a cellist with the Hawaii Symphony. Before moving to Hawaii Ms. Long was most recently a member of the Omaha Symphony. Notably, Kathleen has also served as principal cello with the Shreveport Symphony, Illinois Symphony, Oistrakh Symphony of Chicago, Odysseus Chamber Players and the Abilene Philharmonic. While living in Texas, she also served as Adjunct Professor at Tarrant Community College. Kathleen earned her Bachelor of Music degree from University of Alberta, Master of Music degree from University of Toronto, and an Artist Diploma from Texas Christian University. She also attended Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute, Orford Centre d'Arts, and Toronto Summer Music Academy. Principal teachers include Dr. Jesus Castro-Balbi, Jennifer Humphreys and Roman Borys. She resides in Kaimuki with her husband, son Theodore, daughter Violet, and poi dog Baby Bear.

Steven Luksan is a composer, pianist, and educator making music in Seattle, WA, USA. He is a pianist at Seattle Opera, on faculty at Music Center of the Northwest, and is the accompanist for the Seattle Mannskor. He currently serves as Composer-in-Residence with the Northwest Edvard Grieg Society. Steven received a Master's Degree in Music Composition from the University of British Columbia and Bachelor's Degrees in Music and Norwegian Language from the University of Washington. His compositions are influenced by folk traditions, jazz, minimalism, and the music of his favorite composers from the early 20th century. His compositions include pieces for solo piano, and over 100 art songs in English and Norwegian. Steven is an advocate for the performance of new and uncommon compositions, especially those by Scandinavian and women composers, and for the performance of chamber music in intimate settings. He is the founder and artistic director of the Saltwater Music Series (Des Moines, WA), a concert series dedicated to performances of local and off-the-beaten-path chamber music. Steven's performance and research interests focus on late-19th and 20th century Nordic and American music, especially music composed by Norwegian-American immigrant composers. Highlights of the 2022-2023 concert season included the world premiere of his String Quartet at the National Nordic Museum and broadcast performances on KING FM's Northwest Focus Live, All Classical Portland's Thursdays at Three, and features on NPR's Live Sessions. Recent performances include appearances at Icicle Creek Center for the Performing Arts and a tour throughout Washington State with Seattle Opera's production of the bilingual opera Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World.

Soprano Laura Loge has been hailed for her "luminous stage presence" and "characterful and versatile voice." Opera roles include Violetta, Musetta, Micaëla, Mother (*Hansel & Gretel*), Ännchen, Lisa (*La Sonnambula*), La Fée, Lucy (*The Telephone*), Rosalinda, and Suor Genovieffa, among others. She has performed as the soprano soloist in Mozart's *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* and *Incidental Music to Egmont*, Neilsen's *Third Symphony*, Fauré's *Requiem*, Grieg's *Incidental Music for Peer Gynt*, David Monrad Johansen's *Syv Sanger*, Op.6, arranged for her and chamber orchestra, Schumann's *Mass* and *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Verdi's *Requiem*. Laura specializes in Nordic art song and chamber music, having performed across the United States and in Norway, including in Edvard Grieg's villa. She has produced two albums of Nordic song, including *Breaking the Language Barrier: Songs in Norwegian and Danish*, *Composed by Foreigners* and *Songs and Piano Music of Edvard Grieg*, *Op. 33 & 66*. Her next album, *Der Skreg en Fugl*, featuring previously unrecorded songs by Norwegian women with pianist Angela Draghicescu will be released in 2024. Laura is Artistic Director of Nordic Chamber Music, former Artistic Director of Mostly Nordic Chamber Music Series at the National Nordic Museum, Founder and President of the Northwest Edvard Grieg Society, and Music Series Coordinator at Seattle's Saint Mark's Cathedral. She received her Bachelor of Music from Saint Olaf College, her Master of Music from the New England Conservatory and studied Nordic Art Song and chamber music at the University of Stavanger Conservatory of Music.