

UC SANTA BARBARA
Department of Music

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UCSB DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS WEST COAST PREMIERE WITH STEVEN GROSS AND AMERICAN DOUBLE

Program to feature West Coast premiere of Grammy Award-winning composer William Bolcom's Trio for Horn, Violin and Piano, as well as works by Václav Nelhýbel and Jiří Havlík

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) September 11, 2018—The UCSB Department of Music will present UCSB Professor of Horn Steven Gross with American Double members violinist Philip Ficsor and pianist Constantine Finehouse in the West Coast premiere of William Bolcom's Trio for Horn, Violin, and Piano on Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 3 pm at Hahn Hall at the Music Academy of the West. The recital will also include performances of Václav Nelhýbel's *Scherzo Concertante*, an excerpt from Jiří Havlík's Concerto for Horn, and selections from Bolcom's Second Suite for Solo Violin.

"I am thrilled to present the West Coast premiere of William Bolcom's Trio for Horn, Violin, and Piano, joined by American Double," said Professor Gross. "This is an exciting new work that promises to be a significant contribution to the chamber music repertoire. The program will also include solo and duo compositions by other composers."

Commissioned by Professor Gross and American Double in 2017, Bolcom's Trio for Horn, Violin, and Piano will receive its world premiere in Denver this September prior to the West Coast premiere. The titles of the four movements ("Plodding, implacably controlled," "Headlong, brutal," "As if far away, misterioso," and "Very controlled and resolute") give the listener a preview of the vastly different moods and colors at play within the piece. Bolcom—a National Medal of Arts, Pulitzer Prize, and Grammy Award-winner—notes the work was "occasioned...by the era we're living in. So many of us feel desperation from the constant endangering of our country and the world; I wrote the *Trio* to express this, hoping listeners might possibly feel less alone."

Václav Nelhýbel's *Scherzo Concertante* (1966) takes the listener on a journey filled with vigorous rhythms, cascading notes, and interlocking melodies between the horn and the piano. A prolific composer, Nelhýbel's output included over 600 works. He is most remembered for his wind compositions, but his repertoire also includes opera, ballet, symphonic, band, keyboard, instrumental solo, and choral works.

Jiří Havlík's Concerto for Horn (1976) was written during Havlík's time as a composition student at the Prague Conservatory. Now a hornist in the Czech Philharmonic, as a young composer Havlík sought to create a piece he could not only submit for his composition requirements, but also perform. The piece was inspired by the rich Czech tradition of wind instrument concertos, and was modeled after the classical three-movement concerto form. The work incorporates sweeping melodic lines and utilizes the full range of horn registers. In 1978, the work was awarded the "Special Award of the Czech Ministry of Culture for Composition and Performance." Professor Gross will perform the second movement, "Molto lento."

Violinist Philip Ficsor—who served as Associate Professor of Music at Westmont College from 2006-2013—will round out the program with a performance of selections from Bolcom’s Second Suite for Solo Violin (2011). With a loose reference to the Baroque dance-suite form so often employed by Bach, the Second Suite is in nine movements, of which Dr. Ficsor will perform six: “Morning Music,” “Tempo di gavotte,” “Barcarolle,” “Fuga malinconica,” “Tarantella,” and “Evening Music.”

Tickets: general admission (\$15); non-UCSB students with ID (\$5); UCSB students with ID (FREE); children ages 9-12 (FREE).

Tickets may be purchased online at <http://music.ucsb.edu/news/purchase-tickets> or by calling the UCSB Associated Students Ticket Office at (805) 893-2064.

Directions and Parking Information: Parking on the Music Academy of the West campus is free. Parking along the driveway in front of Hahn Hall is exclusively and entirely “reserved” or “handicapped.” Please visit www.musicacademy.org/ticket-info/ for directions to the Music Academy of the West.

All artist and composer bios can be found at <http://music.ucsb.edu/news/event/1705>.

About the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music

From an institution that began life dedicated to training the next generation of music educators, to what is now a multi-faceted department with a fully established research and professional graduate program with degrees in composition, ethnomusicology, musicology, music theory, and performance, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music has produced many hundreds of graduates who have distinguished themselves both nationally and internationally. Alumni have gone on to teach on faculties of major colleges and universities in the United States and abroad, or in outstanding secondary school positions. Many graduates of the program have published extensively and become widely renowned, prize-winning scholars, while others are award-winning and frequently performed composers writing for television and film. Alumni are also establishing fine reputations as conductors of orchestras, opera, and choruses. Graduates of the instrumental programs have gone on to solo and orchestral careers with leading orchestras, and graduates of the voice program can be heard in opera companies around the world.

With over 150 events presented annually, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music offers something for every music lover. The department boasts 26 unique performing ensembles, each with a quarterly concert calendar. Chamber music, large ensembles, opera, contemporary groups, world music, and jazz ensembles make up the department’s rich performance calendar, along with lectures, master classes, and presentations from the ethnomusicology, musicology, theory, and composition programs. For a complete listing of performances and lectures for the quarter, please visit the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music website at music.ucsb.edu.

For additional information, photos, or to request an interview with an artist, please contact Adriane Hill at adrianehill@ucsb.edu or (805) 893-3230. To sign up for the Department of Music’s newsletter, please [click here](#). Follow the Department of Music on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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