



EASTERN
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

start something **big**

The EWU Department of Music presents

Nathan Westlund
A Cello Recital

Assisted by:

Jeremy Larson, piano
Riley Gray, piano/accordion
Jake Madison, bass/electric bass
Eric Gooler, trombone
Andrea Hamel, guitar
Alek Gayton, drums
Alex Coleman, drums
Kellen Morgan, drums

Sunday, April 14, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for
Bachelor in Music Performance, Cello

Studios of Dr. John Marshall and Dr. William Conable

Program

Gavotte No. 2 in D Major, Op. 23

Jeremy Larson, piano

David Popper

Concerto No. 4, Op. 65
Rondo

Jeremy Larson, piano

Georg Goltermann

Suite for Cello and Jazz Piano Trio
Part 1: Baroque in Rhythm

Riley Gray, piano
Jake Madison, bass
Alek Gayton, drums

Claude Bolling

The Blue Danube in Budapest

Mike Block

Julie-O

Mark Summer

Carpinteria

EWU Avant Garde Ensemble

David Binney

Improvisations on a Request

EWU Avant Garde Ensemble

AVG

*The EWU Avant Garde Ensemble (AVG) is a new group at Eastern this year. It was designed as an educational environment for those who had little to no improvisational experience, giving them a chance to expand their abilities and knowledge. The group has gone from many of its members having never soloed before, to an artistic, and tight-knit combo. It's members include: director and pianist **Riley Gray**, bassist **Jake Madison**, trombonist **Eric Gooler**, guitarist **Andrea Hamel**, percussionists **Kellen Morgan** and **Alex Coleman**, and myself on cello.*

Gavotte No. 2

David Popper (1843-1913) was a Bohemian cellist and composer. Popper became the principal cellist at the Hofoper in 1867. In 1873 he resigned his post at the Hofoper to continue touring with his wife and gave concerts throughout Europe. He performed with musicians such as Jenő Hubay, Johannes Brahms, and the Berlin Philharmonic. Incidentally, he taught Janos Starker's teacher, who in turn taught Dr. John Marshall whom I have the pleasure of studying under at EWU. This Gavotte is light hearted and fun, and a staple in the cello repertoire. I had the opportunity to play this last year at Musicfest Northwest.

Rondo

Georg Goltermann (1824-1898) was a German cellist and composer. In 1852, he spent time in Europe as a touring soloist and became the music director in Würzburg. In 1874 he became the Kapellmeister in Frankfurt am Main. This Rondo is from his 4th cello concerto, and is one of his most famous because it is studied by student cellists world-wide. This particular arrangement is shortened version of the original piece, but still lays out the major form and melodies.

Suite for Cello and Jazz Piano Trio

Composed by Claude Bolling in 1984, this suite was originally performed by cellist Yo-Yo-Ma. Bolling is a renowned French jazz pianist and his music can not only be found on stage, but also in over one hundred films. This piece is a crossover of classical and jazz, and contains many elements of both styles. I find this piece very fun to play, and an excellent bridge between the two, seemingly separate, worlds of classical and jazz.

The Blue Danube in Budapest

I first heard this piece performed when I was a freshman at EWU during Cellobration. The guest artist was a cellist named Darrett Adkins and he played this as part of what he calls a "Bach Hyper-suite." This piece caught my attention right away, and I have been captivated by it ever since. It's a take on the classical piece, "Blue Danube" with a folk/funk/percussive spin on it. The piece is all pizzicato, and requires several extended techniques normally found on guitar and drums. It was composed by cellist Mike Block in 2006.

Julie-O

Composer and cellist Mark Summer is part of the Turtle Island String Quartet. This ensemble plays a variety of music, including jazz, pop, bluegrass and blues. People magazine says this about Mark: "he whacks at his cello like a blissed-out rock drummer." This piece, Julie-O, has a very folk and Celtic feel to it, with a variety of sounds and textures. Composed in 1997, it has become a favorite of cellists' world-wide, and a piece that I personally find to be very fun and exhilarating.

Carpinteria

David Binney is an acclaimed alto saxophonist and composer in New York City. He was awarded an NEA Grant in 1989 to record his first album, *Point Game*. In 1998 he started his own record label, Mythology Records. This chart was released on his 2006 album *Cities and Desire*. The piece reflects on a city, Carpinteria that sits on the ocean front. The piece ebbs and flows like waves on the shore, and is preceded by an open improvisation that leads directly into the main tune, which is only three choruses of written music.

Improvisations on a Request

This is an interesting piece to talk about, because it's not really a piece at all. The Avant Garde Ensemble does a lot of free improvisation, and that's exactly what this is. Using audience participation, we hope to show our ability to spontaneously compose and improvise. Members of the audience will be helping us compose live on stage. The performance will be something we have never played before, and have had no prior connection to. It will simply be the music that we are inspired to play and a reflection of what happens live. You could say that we are just jamming, but our goal is to make real, honest music in a free art form.

I would like to thank Dr. John Marshall for teaching me the last four years. I came to Eastern having not played cello for years, and barely able to hold the bow correctly, much less play a scale in tune. It is only with his help, encouragement and open-mindedness that I have been able to come this far. I'd also like to thank Dr. William Conable who has picked up lessons for me this quarter while Dr. Marshall is on sabbatical, as he has already shown me new perspectives and given me great information. Lastly, I want to thank my family for encouraging me to pursue music and being there every step of the way as I grow as a musician.