

Dr. Katharin Rundus



Katharin Rundus, DMA, is a nationally recognized voice teacher, choral conductor, singer and author. As a gifted soprano, Dr. Rundus has performed in opera, oratorio, musical theater, and as a professional chorister in Italy, Germany, France, and England, as well as in the US. For twenty-five years she was the Director of Vocal Studies at Fullerton College where she taught voice and oversaw the more than one hundred and fifty students studying voice either privately or in classes each semester. During her tenure, she conducted the Fullerton College Chamber Singers and the Women's Chorale. Since 2002 she has maintained a dynamic voice studio at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at the California State University at Long Beach. Her students from both music schools are successfully engaged in performing and teaching in the United States as well as Europe and Asia. Dr. Rundus continues as an artist lecturer in voice at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at CSULB where in addition to her voice studio, she also teaches vocal pedagogy classes.

Adept at explaining complex scientific vocal concepts in an engaging and practical manner, Katharin has presented workshops and clinics on voice building and voice training for teachers, choral conductors, and their students and choristers for more than twenty-five years,. In response to participants' requests for more information about her ideas and vocal exercises, *Cantabile: A Manual About Beautiful Singing* (Pavane Publishing) was developed and published in 2009. A practical vocal pedagogy textbook, it is in a Third Edition (2022) and in use in colleges and universities throughout the United States and abroad. *Cantabile Voice Class* (Pavane Publishing, 2015), a text for academic voice classes, and *Choral Cantabile* (Pavane Publishing, 2017) continue to provide practical and voice science information for voice teachers and choral conductors. Her two latest publications in the "Cantabile" Series, *Cantabile Online Plus* and *Cantabile Virtual Vocalise Collection*, (both Pavane Publishing 2020) were developed specifically for online use. She was a contributor to *The Voice Teacher's Cookbook* (Meredith Music Publications) a "how-to" book for Voice Teachers published in 2018.

Dr. Rundus received a Bachelor of Music degree from Coe College, the Masters of Music from Westminster Choir College and the Doctor of Musical Arts from Claremont Graduate University in Vocal Performance, where she studied and researched the use of spectral analysis in the voice studio. She continued her studies in voice production and voice habilitation post-doctorate with Ingo Titze and Katherine Verdolini Abbot at the National Center of Voice and Speech, receiving a Certificate in Vocology.

Dr. Corey Trahan



With over 85 roles in his repertoire, **Corey Trahan** is an active performer, educator, and stage director. In 2023-24, Corey will stage direct productions of *La Canterina*, *Amahl & the Night Visitors*, *The Tragedy of Carmen* (Fort Worth Opera's Resident Artists), *Into the Woods*, *La Voix Humaine*, *Miss Havisham's Wedding Night* and *Gianni Schicchi* (Amarillo Opera). Additionally, Corey will join the faculty of the 2024 Fairbanks Summer Music Festival (Alaska) and the faculty of a new training program in Venice, Italy. Recent engagements include Snout in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Des Moines Metro Opera), Spoletta in *Tosca* (Amarillo Opera), guest vocalist with Louisiana Delta Ballet, baritone soloist in Durafle's *Requiem* and Sir Joseph Porter in *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Pensacola Opera). Currently, Corey is Director of Opera Studio at T.C.U. and a member of the Vocal Arts Faculty and Faculty Senate. Additionally, he is President of the Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of N.A.T.S. and President of TCU's Gamma Epsilon Society (Pi

Kappa Lambda). Corey's academic degrees include the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of North Texas, the Master of Music degree from the University of Houston and the Bachelor of Music degree from Louisiana State University. He has been an apprentice with Lake George Opera, Central City Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Amarillo Opera, Shreveport Opera, and the Seagle Music Colony. Corey is a current member of the American Guild of Music Artists, Actor's Equity Association and National Association of Teachers of Singing.

www.coreytrahan.com

Dr. Alexander Zhu



Los Angeles based composer, pianist, and producer **Alexander Zhu** has performed solo recitals, concerti and chamber, orchestral, pop, fusion and film music coast to coast in the United States, across Europe and China. He is also an established film and TV composer whose work has been showcased in film festivals across the US and Europe, and can be heard on Disney+, Netflix and TF1 (France).

Alexander is Assistant Professor of Music at Occidental College, and also serves on the faculties of Pierce College and the Pasadena Conservatory of Music, where he teaches music theory, composition and piano. Prior to his current appointments, he taught at the University of Southern California. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, where he studied with Stewart Gordon, while serving as a lecturer in the Piano Department. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree summa cum laude from New England Conservatory in Boston. He is the recipient of NEC's Tourjée Alumni

Scholarship and Thornton's Distinguished Graduate Award. While at NEC, Alexander studied with Boston Symphony pianist Randall Hodgkinson and renowned modern music expert Stephen Drury. Alexander attended the Aspen Music Festival on fellowship, studying collaborative piano with Rita Sloan. Prior to his conservatory studies, he studied with Lydia Artymiw.

His career centered on new music, Dr. Zhu performed on the viral Yeethoven Kanye West/Beethoven mashup concert series, appearing in media outlets such as the USA Today, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post, Reuters, and Agence France Presse. He is an expert in minimalism, performing the music of Terry Riley, Steve Reich, Philip Glass and John Adams in concert halls, art museums and nightclubs. He has presented lecture-recitals on the performance practice of minimalism; his dissertation focused on pioneering new analytical techniques for the style.

An accomplished orchestral musician, Alexander has served as the principal keyboardist of the American Youth Symphony, the Downey Symphony Orchestra, the YMF Debut Orchestra, Boston's Discovery Ensemble and the New England Conservatory Orchestras, with whom he played over 100 concerts. He has also performed with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach. For two years, Alexander served as the principal keyboard of the Aspen Chamber Symphony, where he worked alongside principal players from the Los Angeles and New York Philharmonics, the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, and the Chicago Symphony. He has collaborated with soloists including Joshua Bell, Lynn Harrell, Sarah Chang, Midori and Gil Shaham, and performed under conductors including Leonard Slatkin, David Robertson, and Robert Spano. He has appeared on several film scores, including *The Harvest* (2013), directed by John McNoughton, as well as on radio programs on NPR, WGBH, KUSC and LACMA's Sundays Live. He toured China as piano soloist and principal keyboardist with Los Angeles Film Symphony, performing in 15 cities across the country.

Dr. Zhu has been a featured presenter at the MTNA National Conference and the Collegiate Piano Pedagogy Symposium, and has been published in CAPMT Connect. He served as the President of the USC MTNA Chapter for two years. His private students have been accepted to top-ranking colleges and universities across the country, including Columbia University, Princeton University, MIT, USC, UC Berkeley and UCLA.

Dr. Irene Peery-Fox



Dr. Irene Peery-Fox, NCTM (Nationally Certified Teacher of Music) received her doctoral degree from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University, where she studied with Leon Fleisher. Before her doctoral work, she earned bachelor of music and master of science degrees from The Juilliard School, studying with Irwin Freundlich, Jeaneanne Dowis, and Ilona Kabos. She also earned an ARCT degree from the Royal Conservatory in Toronto and a performing arts degree from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.

Irene has won numerous piano competitions; twice she won the International CBC Talent Festival Competition in Canada, and also the International Alaska Music Trails Concert Tour Competition, among others. Her many concerto appearances include performances with orchestras in Montreal, Toronto, Salt Lake City, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Victoria, Calgary, Provo, and Lethbridge. She has performed on radio and television on the NBC, CBC, and BBC networks.

As a former faculty member of the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University Dr. Peery-Fox taught in the Preparatory Department from 1980 to 1982. For thirty-six years she served on the piano faculty of Brigham Young University, becoming a full professor where she taught undergraduate and graduate pedagogy and graduate piano literature, as well as being the graduate piano coordinator. Her students have been frequent prize winners in international, national, state, and local competitions, including the national winner of the Collegiate division of the MTNA Young Artists' Competition three times and second in the national Yamaha High School Division. Ten of her students have been selected to perform in Carnegie Hall. One of her students was the first prize winner of the International Gina Bachauer Competition. Most recently in the International Sound Espressivo Competition, Dr. Foxes' student placed first. As a frequent lecturer and presenter, Irene Peery-Fox has given workshops and master classes at the World National Pedagogy Conference in Nashville and the MTNA National Convention, as well as others in Russia, Sacramento State, the University of Michigan, Chattanooga, Saddleback College in CA and Southern Utah University. Dr. Peery-Fox gave master classes in

China, presenting in Beijing, and Guangzhou, and was asked to return to Beijing by invitation to present more master classes, and in addition, to give more teaching demonstrations in Wuhan at the Central China Normal University. Irene Fox was the chair for Pedagogy Saturday at the National Convention in Baltimore, where she also presented. Dr. Fox was also the MTNA Conference guest artist for the Washington State Music Teachers' Association. At Brigham Young University Irene was the recipient of the Karl G. Maeser Award "for outstanding teaching accomplishments" and also received induction into the Golden Key International Honors Society "in recognition of her outstanding contribution to Brigham Young University in the areas of service and leadership." She has recorded two CD's , produced by Tantara records.

Dr. Mary Karen Clardy



Regents Professor of Flute at the University of North Texas, **Mary Karen Clardy** appears as soloist and chamber artist throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Britain, Europe, Asia and South America, with numerous performances for the National Flute Association and British Flute Society. Her recordings include ***Sonatas and Sonatinas, after syrix...***, with October Trio, and ***The Solo Flute Past to Present***, for the EPR label; a solo recital of American music for the BBC's Radio 3; and orchestral recordings for the Pro Arte, Dorian, and Klavier labels.

Acclaimed in Dallas Morning News for her virtuosity and effortless fluidity, Ms. Clardy was featured on NPR's Performance Today in a recent concert in Dallas's Meyerson Symphony Hall. Renowned as a teacher, she regularly presents master classes at home and abroad, and her students are consistent winners of international and national competitions, holding prestigious orchestral and faculty positions throughout the world. An established author, Ms. Clardy's award-winning publications are in multiple reprint.

Dr. Sophie Webber



Cellist **Dr. Sophie Webber**, whose "every note has meaning rather as a look or a touch does" (Gramophone) is an internationally acclaimed soloist, chamber musician, arts activist, and educator. Praised as "an exceptional and creative musician" (Interlude) and "sublime to hear" (Time Out Chicago), she has released three critically acclaimed albums, "Escape: Bach's Six Suites for Solo Cello" (2018), "B2C: Bach to Choir" (2020, featuring Bach's Cello Suites Nos. 1 and 3, alongside Sophie's original choral accompaniment with vocables by former Kings Singer baritone and arranger, Phil Lawson, performed by the Chicago Choir of the Church of Ascension) and most recently, "Roots: Transcriptions of Romantic Works for Cello and Piano" with pianist Ines Irawati (2022).

Her former teachers include Janos Starker, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, and Helga Winold at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, and Richard Markson at Trinity College of Music, London, from where she graduated with a First Class Honors degree and the Sir John Barbirolli memorial prize for cello.

A dedicated educator, Sophie has served as cello faculty at Southeast Missouri State University, Jacobs School of Music Summer Clinic, Oxford Cello School, Trinity College of Music Junior Department, Lake Forest College and the Music Institute of Chicago. She held a position as Music Theory Instructor at Indiana University for four years and has taught a variety of university level courses. She is frequently invited to give guest masterclasses at universities across the States.

Over the past three years, Dr Sophie has given regular online cello lessons and classes, most recently founding an 2024 online cello course, “Dr Sophie Cello Lab,” including group and individual instruction, international guest cellist clinicians, and with a strong community component.

Sophie's music has been featured on many of the major Classical Music Radio Stations in the UK and across the USA.

Dr. Michael DiBarry



Performer and educator **Dr. Michael DiBarry** (he/him) performs across the U.S. and Canada on both violin and viola. He is based in Phoenix, Arizona where he serves as the orchestra director and instructor of violin and viola at Glendale Community College as well as an instructor of string methods, music history, and music theory. His community teaching includes work with both Rosie's House Music Academy and Harmony Project Phoenix. A recent invited guest of the Emerging Artists Concerts Series with Jeunesses Musicales Canada and a former teaching artist with Sistema New Brunswick in Canada, Michael performs with the Arizona Philharmonic in Prescott as acting associate concertmaster as well as across the Phoenix Valley.

Michael received his Doctor of Musical Arts from Arizona State University where he was a member of the in-residence fellowship ensemble, the Herberger String Quartet. He founded the chamber music series Oakmont Musicivic in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received the Joan Frazer Memorial Award for Judaism and the Arts for composing a Yiddish song cycle, and pioneered microtonal violin pedagogy that bridges the gap between Western and Middle Eastern ear training. His current research explores learning about new musical worlds as a member of Mariachi Rubor and a student of Persian classical music with his teacher Farrokh Mahae in Phoenix. Michael received his Master of Music from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and a Bachelor of Music from McGill University in Montreal.