



UNIVERSITY OF  
OREGON

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE**

GUEST ARTIST  
**Peter Gach**  
piano

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**Season 115, Program 11**

**Beall Concert Hall**  
Monday, November 2, 2015 | 7:30 p.m.



Impressoes Seresteiras Hector Villa-Lobos

Four Mazurkas, Op. 30 Fryderyk Chopin  
 No. 1 in C minor  
 No. 2 in B minor  
 No. 3 in D Flat Major  
 No. 4 in C Sharp Minor

Masks, Op. 34 Karol Szymanowski  
 Scheherazade  
 Tantris the Clown  
 Don Juan's Serenade

#### INTERMISSION

Ballade No. 3 in A Flat Major, Op. 47 Fryderyk Chopin

Two Nocturnes, Op. 27  
 No. 1 in C Sharp Minor  
 No. 2 in D Flat Major

Three Pieces for Piano Benjamin Krause  
 Fantasy Variations on "My Ship" by Kurt Weill (2013)  
 Lullaby for Litka (2015)  
 Send in Wolfgang (2013)

Peter Gach is a pianist with a wide range of musical interests. His repertoire ranges from Bach to Charles Ives and beyond. Fluent in Polish, he studied at the Warsaw Conservatory, and feels a special affinity for the music of Polish composers, especially Chopin and Szymanowski and has returned there to play frequently. Of particular note are his performances at Atma, Szymanowski's home in Zakopane, Poland, and his performance of the Charles Ives First Sonata, broadcast live on Polish Television. He has also performed the Szymanowski Sinfonia Concertante with the La Jolla Symphony.

He has performed numerous 20th and 21st century works, many written especially for him. These include works by Jim Weld, Mark Wessel, Sherman Storr, Norm Weston, William C. Bradbury, Madelyn Byrne, Ellen Weller, and many others. A sample of these works can be found on the CD *Fresh Piano*, released by Inova Recordings. He has also released CDs of the music of Scott Joplin and Fryderyk Chopin.

He has written two books, *Practice Makes Perfect: A Handbook for Musicians at Work* (detailing his methods of practicing) and *The Perfect Performance: A Handbook for Musicians on Stage* (discussing aspects of preparation for performance.) He is currently at work on a third volume dealing with specifically pianistic questions.

Gach's lecture-recital on Chopin, presented in 2010 as part of the 200th anniversary of the composer's birth and recorded by PCTV (Palomar College Television), received First Prize in the international competition "Chopin in the XXIst Century Multimedia Competition."

Gach has also explored the world of free improvisation. Over the years, he has developed his own unique improvisational style, rooted in the classical tradition, yet exploring the boundaries of musical expression. He has worked with contemporary dance and theatre ensembles. His collaboration with stage director Michael Mufson resulted in the highly praised ensemble piece *Wireless City*.

In 2011, he received the Palomar College Foundation's Comet award for his contributions to Palomar College. Prior to his retirement from Palomar College in May 2012, he served as Professor of Music, Chairperson of the Performing Arts Department and Artist in Residence in Piano.

He continues to concertize, both at home and abroad.