



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

School of Music

Presents

SONIC HARVEST

**An Eclectic Evening of New Music by
University of Arizona Composers**

**Wednesday, November 12th
5:00 PM, Holsclaw Hall**

PROGRAM

Each work includes notes from its composer.

Alone After Awhile.....Grisman Stringer (b. 2005)

Jenna Kershner, violin
Carson Lanning, piano

The piece itself is based on the feeling of being by yourself at the end of a long day or being out and about and around people for a long time. It is a relieving feeling—a moment that allows you to take a breath and just exist. However, it can also be cold and lonely once you realize you're just you at the end of the day.

Shards.....Sahasra Chakkirala (b.2005)

Dr. Grace Ho, piano

"*Shards*" begins with restrained energy, unfolding from a fragmented motif that gradually expands into layered rhythmic and harmonic textures, much like light refracting through glass. The piece does not fracture; rather, it forms a tonal mosaic, building wholeness from broken symmetry and embodying transformation through subtle accumulation. This work reflects quiet strength, fragility, and the beauty that arises from brokenness; a gentle tribute pieced together from fleeting emotions and memories.

Mountain TamerHadley Griffin Johnson (b. 2004)

Hadley Griffin, viola

"*Mountain Tamer*" is a piece for unaccompanied solo viola that employs an alternate string tuning from the old-time fiddle tradition. It blends scales and techniques from western fiddle music with those of the classical and contemporary viola repertoire. Folk music has historically emphasized the violin in the role of "fiddle," but the viola offers a unique range, color, and an especially resonant and sweet timbre in this tuning. The piece aims to serve as a bridge between classical viola performance and the wider world of musical tradition, technique, and expression within the violin family.

Aleatoric Study No. 1: "Canzone"Cole Edward Nagoda (b. 2004)

David Sobampo, euphonium
Jack Martinez, piano

Spring DawnClovis Glasner (b. 2005)

Michael Dolese, vibraphone
Sofia Nguyen, piano
Clovis Glasner, cello

Spring Dawn is a piece originally written for vibraphone, piano, and snare drum, but the snare drum part has been replaced with cello using an extended technique for this performance. It is inspired by the poem "Spring Dawn" (春曉) by Meng Haoran, which translates as follows:

Continued...

*"I slumbered this spring morning, and missed the dawn,
From everywhere I heard the cry of birds.*

*That night the sound of wind and rain had come,
Who knows how many petals then had fallen?"*

This piece primarily explores music as a process and how an individual's imagination can affect the music they play. The percussionist is instructed to imagine a scene based on the poem. Each section is repeated for as long as the player imagines that part of the scene to last. The length of the piece is entirely dependent on the scene the percussionist imagines, making every performance unique.

"Spring Dawn" aims to capture the sounds of nature one might hear on a spring morning, utilizing classical techniques from the avant-garde era. Each instrument emulates the visuals, atmosphere, or experience of the narrator, wondering what they may have missed while asleep.

***Un Gran Título 1*.....Diego Gallo (b. 2004)**

Thatcher Eleam, clarinet

"Gran Título 1" takes a single melodic idea on a transformative journey. Inspired by the expressive world of Miklós Rózsa's *Sonatina*, Op. 27, this solo for clarinet is built as a theme and variations. Each new section reimagines the theme, pushing the instrument's boundaries—from dramatic, fast-paced declarations to introspective whispers, all while spanning the clarinet's entire tonal spectrum.

***Creature Suite for Horn*.....Justino Eustacio Pérez (b. 1990)**

- I. Imps
- II. Adoggio
- III. Jackalope

Andy Schaefer, horn
Sonja Blake, piano

"Imps" are not just hideous pests; they are vile, chaotic tricksters. They delight in seemingly playful pranks and frantic bursts of magic, desperate to get attention from just about anyone, or anything. This opening movement captures that troublesome nature with a whimsical, chaotic march, inviting the listener to dodge and weave through the imps' playful, yet increasingly problematic, antics.

Canine Companions have long been revered in cultural folklore and mythology for their unwavering loyalty and affection. From the mythical Fenrir of Norse legend to the humble Afghan that saved Noah's Ark, dogs have consistently demonstrated their devotion to their human companions.

"Adoggio" is a heartfelt tribute to the memory of Annie, the faithful companion of hornist Emily Martin, for whom this suite was written. This emotional movement celebrates the endless and profound bond between humans and animals, honoring the unforgettable memories and love shared for years between Annie and Emily.

Do not be fooled by its appearance. The "Jackalope," a mythic hybrid of jackrabbit and antelope, may seem adorable, but legends account for a fearsome critter. It is said to be hostile, capable of mimicking human voices to lure victims into a violent attack with its sharp antlers. This movement brings the creature to life through two dueling themes: one representing the nimble jackrabbit, the other the powerful antelope. Ultimately the themes clash and converge, building into a wild, frenzied chase that unleashes the Jackalope's ferocious true persona.

Etudes in DissonanceMyely Laura Martin (b. 2000)

Kelsey Osburn, Violin
Isabel Burgos DeStephanis, cello

"Etudes in Dissonance" is a duet for cello and violin that, as the title suggests, experiments and plays with dissonance. The violin is assigned dissonant chords and chromatic passages, while the cello is assigned augmented triads and diatonic passages. Each instrument is dissonant on its own, and the two also create dissonance when played together. Given these assignments, the piece playfully produces interesting uses of these two not-so-dissimilar harmonies.

a light rain in a sunny day.....Everton Maia (b. 1990)

Everton Maia, guitar

I conceived the idea for this piece during the summer of 2025. In the final days of June, Marilyn Chase, a friend of mine and an old friend of the guitar program, passed away. Marilyn was immensely loved by everyone in the guitar program, and we decided to organize a concert in her homage. I hadn't been playing guitar for months by then and had played very little recently because of academics; therefore, this piece had to be something that would get me close to the instrument again and bring out the comforting feeling I have when remembering Marilyn and the little time I got to spend with her since my arrival in the US in 2020.

Un/re/solvedMichael Dolese (b. 1999)

Michael Dolese, marimba

This piece began as a process piece, meant to challenge me as both a performer and a composer. I was feeling bored with the academic performance scene, which involved many different musical projects happening at once with varying levels of commitment, leading to frequent delays.

This piece for solo marimba explores the concept of patience mixed with a sense of quiet anxiety and dread of what's to come. In the end, however, everything lines up in an unexpected way to give the listener a sense of ease after a painstaking process that seemed to involve little progress. This piece was written for the University of Arizona School of Music Composers' Concert in the Fall of 2025.

Flames.....Sahasra Chakkirala (b. 2005)

Salma Gomez, Facundo Martinez, Haolong Li, Haotian Jing, guitars
Juan Flores III, double bass

"Flames" is a tonal work for guitar quartet that explores the fragile boundary between harmony and destruction. Set in a dystopian cityscape, it depicts two contrasting worlds—one peaceful, the other consumed by jealousy and anger—that ultimately collide as chaos overtakes serenity. This downfall unfolds not with solemnity but through a frenzied dance, blurring the line between celebration and ruin. In the end, the work reveals that these opposing forces coexist within the same community and the same self, portraying the fire as an inner struggle where order and chaos, peace and unrest, coexist in delicate balance.

MEET THE COMPOSERS

Please join us after the show in the Holsclaw Hall lobby for refreshments and conversation.