

THE ST. OLAF COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

*presents in*

FACULTY/GUEST RECITAL

Rachel Brandwein, *Harp*  
Aaron David Miller, *organ*



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

STUDIO A • 7 P.M.

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## PROGRAM

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**Three Dances**

- I. Bransle
- II. La Sarabande – XXXIII
- III. Volte

Michael Praetorius (1571–1621)  
arr. Aaron David Miller

**The King's Calling: Fantasy for Organ and Harp (2017)**

Rachel Brandwein (b.1982)

**Concerto in Bb Major, Op. 4, No. 6 (1736)**

- I. Allegro

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

**Cross-Currents (2017)**

Aaron David Miller (b.1972)

**Consolation (2005)**

Rachel Brandwein

**Harp String Pipe Swing (2019)**

Rachel Brandwein and Aaron David Miller

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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Harpist **Dr. Rachel Brandwein** is the winner of the 2014 Mu Phi Epsilon International Solo Competition. She was the Mu Phi Epsilon Concert Artist for the 2014-2016 concert seasons and performed and gave outreach presentations throughout the continental United States. She is on faculty at St. Olaf College and Luther College, and has presented master classes around the United States as well as in Asia.

Among her performance and composition accomplishments are first prizes and grants in numerous regional and national competitions sponsored by the American Harp Society, the American String Teachers Association, and Mu Phi Epsilon.

In addition to solo, chamber, and orchestral appearances in Ireland, Taiwan, and China, Brandwein embarked on a nine state, fifteen concert tour with Trio Matisse (flute, cello, harp) as sponsored by the Allied Concert Services tours. She frequently performs with various ensembles throughout the United States, including the National Lutheran Choir, with whom she also records. Brandwein has performed concerts with the Minnesota Orchestra under conductors Osmo Vänskä, Stanisław Skrowaczewski, Yan Pascal Tortelier, and Mark Wigglesworth. She debuted in Hong Kong, and Chiayi, Taiwan, with flutist Linda Chatterton in 2016 and the duo toured the Midwest in 2018. She also toured the Midwest as a featured concerto soloist faculty member with the Luther College Symphony Orchestra that same year.

In 2013, Brandwein was awarded the top prize in the Mu Phi Epsilon Original Composition Contest for her work for harp solo *Introduction, Theme, & Variations*. In 2014, by invitation from the American Harp Society, she performed a full recital of her compositions at the National Conference in New Orleans. In 2015, she was awarded a commission grant by the American Harp Society to write a work for Apple Orange Pair (horn and harp). The same work written for them, *Suite de Nature*, received the top prize in the 2015 Original Composition Contest sponsored by Mu Phi Epsilon. Her harp solos received the ARCH Awards from the American Harp Society Minnesota Chapter in 2013 and 2015.

She wrote a work for organ and harp, *The King's Calling*, which was commissioned by the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, MN, and it was premiered on their Chamber Music Concert Series in 2017. She is being commissioned by the same series to write another work for harp and organ in 2020, which she will perform with organist Aaron David Miller. She and Dr. Miller enjoy concertizing as a duo, and performed by invitation at the 2019 American Harp Society National Institute in Winston-Salem, NC. Their program featured original works for the pair by them both, as well as a work they co-wrote, Harp String Pipe Swing.

Brandwein co-presented a composition master class workshop with composer Libby Larsen during the new Young Composer's Program at the 2017 American Harp Society National Institute. She also shared a concert with featured student composers, which included her performance of her original work, *The Pattern Wheel: Suite for Harp Solo*. In 2018, Brandwein completed a commission for harp ensemble entitled the square spinning orbit, also generously funded by the American Harp Society. In 2019, Brandwein produced her second album of original harp solo and ensemble works, *String Motifs*.

Dr. Brandwein earned degrees from the University of Michigan (BM), The Juilliard School (MM), and Stony Brook University (DMA), and also studied harp and French for one year in Paris and Lyon, France. Brandwein's goal as an educator is to help her students appreciate and fulfill their artistic potential with confidence, creativity, and courage. Please visit her website for more information: [www.rachelbrandwein.com](http://www.rachelbrandwein.com)

**Aaron David Miller** is a renowned organ improviser and composer having won numerous international awards and given concerts across the country. His orchestra works have been performed by such ensembles as the Seattle Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Zurich Symphony, and St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Recent commissions include works for Yale University, University of California Santa Barbara, and the Bach Chamber Players of St. Paul, MN. His organ, choral and orchestra compositions are published by Augsburg Fortress, Paraclete Publishing and Oxford University Press. Dr. Miller was the featured artist at the National AGO convention held in Houston, TX of 2016. In addition to many performance prizes, Dr. Miller was recipient of the 2004 Hellenikon Idyllion Prize for Composition, Athens, Greece. Dr. Miller is Music Director at House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, MN. He is also a Forensic Musicologist for Donato Music, Scarsdale, NY.