

THE ST. OLAF COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

*presents in*

FACULTY RECITAL

Catherine Ramirez, *flute*  
Christopher Atzinger, *piano*



Friday, January 17, 2020  
Urness Recital Hall • 8:15 p.m.

---

## PROGRAM

---

**La Campanella**

Niccolò Paganini (1782–1840)  
arranged for Flute and Piano by Denis Bouriakov

**Fanmi Imèn *Poem for Flute and Piano*** (2018)

Valerie Coleman (b.1970)

**A Small Lyrical Suite** (2007)

Maki Ueda (b.1976)

- I. Prelude (Light)
- II. Ayre (Road)
- III. Danza (Hope)

**Sonata, Op. 23 for Flute and Piano** (1987)

Lowell Liebermann (b.1961)

- I. Lento con rubato
- II. Presto energico

**Canzone, Op. 38a** (1959)

Samuel Barber (1910–1981)

**Voyage** (1983)

John Corigliano (b.1938)

**Mountain Song for Flute and Piano** (1948)

Ned Rorem (b.1923)

**Tango Fantasia**

Jacob Gade (1879–1963)  
arranged by Toke Lund Christiansen

Unauthorized photography or video and audio recording is prohibited.  
Please turn off your personal communication device.

---

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

---

Recognized for her “sensitive and artistic” (Flute Talk Magazine) performances as “a communicator through music” (American Record Guide), flutist **Catherine Ramirez** has captivated listeners from her humble roots along the U.S. Southern border to audiences around the world. Despite a late start on the flute, Catherine has had performance highlights as a soloist and chamber artist at the Beijing Concert Hall (China), Teatro del Giglio with L’Offerta Musicale Chamber Orchestra (Italy), Carnegie’s Weill Recital Hall (NYC), the Kennedy Center Terrace Theatre (Washington, D.C.), Preston Bradley Hall on the Dame Myra Hess Series (Chicago), Zilkha Hall (Houston), Zipper Hall at The Colburn School (Los Angeles), and Temple Square (Salt Lake City), as well as at The Barn at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival (CT), the Rochester Chamber Music Society (MN), and the artist lofts of Lowertown Classics in St. Paul.

Equally at home with symphony, ballet and opera orchestras, Catherine has performed with the El Paso Symphony, El Paso Opera, Juarez Symphony (Mexico), Las Cruces Symphony, Houston Ballet, Vermont Mozart Festival, Mill City Summer Opera, the Minnesota Orchestra and The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Her ventures into musical theatre and popular music have led to recent orchestral performances in the Minnesota State Fair Grandstand show with Weird Al Yankovic, The Who’s “Moving On” Tour, and the Broadway musical “Phantom of the Opera” Tour (MN).

Winner of three top prizes at the International Music Competitions “Città di Padova,” (Italy), First Prize and a New York Debut from the New York Flute Club Young Artist Competition, a SphinxConnect Fellowship, a Global Music Award, an Ernst Krenek Society Recording Prize, a Yvar Mikhashoff Trust for New Music Grant, and a Minnesota State Arts Board Artists Initiative Grant, Catherine is also a dedicated educator of flute and chamber music. She has been an adjudicator and coach for the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, has taught youth to graduate flute students in masterclasses in the U.S., Italy, Colombia, and China, and currently serves as Artist-in-Residence at St. Olaf College (MN).

Motivated to give back to communities in which she has lived, Catherine taught middle school band in El Paso, organized and performed a concert series of accessible Latin and South American chamber music for Houston’s ‘at-risk’ youth, performed for nuns in Bogotá (Colombia), and played a tailored program for cancer patients and therapists at mental health clinics in Minnesota. She has offered her perspective on the National Flute Association Convention Diversity and Inclusion Panel, the Greater Than Faculty Mental Health Panel (St. Olaf College), and the Houston Hispanic Forum (Hispanic Career and Education Day at the George Brown Convention Center). Her performances have been broadcast on WFMT, KUHF and MPR radio, and her research on optimal musical communication has been featured on the cover of *The Flutist Quarterly* and in the online magazine *The Flute View*.

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, to Colombian and Mexican-American parents, Catherine grew up in the U.S.-Mexico border city of El Paso, Texas. She began playing the flute in the sixth grade public school band, and started private flute lessons at age 18. She earned performance degrees from Occidental College (BA), the Boccherini Music Institute in Italy (Honors Diploma), Queens College (MA), Yale University School of Music (MM), and Rice University (DMA). Her major teachers include Melissa Colgin-Abeln, Gary Woodward, Marzio Conti, Tara Helen O'Connor, Ransom Wilson and Leone Buyse. A lover of travel and languages, she resides with her husband in Minnesota.

Since 2019, Catherine Ramirez plays a new Lillian Burkart Flute with a Tobias Mancke Headjoint. For more information, visit [www.catherineramirez.com](http://www.catherineramirez.com).

Lauded in *Gramophone* for his “abundant energy, powerful fingers, big sound, and natural musicality,” and praised by the San Francisco Chronicle for his “fervency and panache,” American pianist **Christopher Atzinger** is celebrated for insightful performances and a reputation for excellence. He has performed extensively throughout the United States and Europe, highlighted by recital performances at Carnegie Hall (New York), Salle Cortot (Paris), St. Martin-in-the-Fields (London), National Concert Hall (Dublin), American Academy (Rome), Liszt Museum (Budapest), Barocco Cultural Arts (Valletta), the Smithsonian Gallery of American Art and the Phillips Collection (Washington), and the Dame Myra Hess Series (Chicago). Festival appearances include the Banff International Keyboard Festival, Brevard Music Festival, Mendocino Music Festival, Bridge Chamber Music Festival, and the Chautauqua Institution.

Mr. Atzinger is a medalist of the New Orleans, San Antonio, Cincinnati, Shreveport and Seattle international piano competitions. He is also winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs Artist Competition and the Simone Belsky Piano Competition, as well as the *Premio Città di Ispica* prize at the IBLA Grand Prize Competition in Italy. Additionally, he is the recipient of grants and fellowships from the Theodore Presser Foundation, Foundation La Gesse, American Composers Forum, Minnesota State Arts Board, and Joyce Dutka Arts Foundation. He is also a recipient of a McKnight Fellowship for Performing Artists.

Christopher Atzinger’s live performances have aired on radio stations WFMT-Chicago, WJR-Detroit, WXEL-South Florida, KPAC-San Antonio, WUOL-Louisville, and WGTE-Toledo and on Kansas, South Dakota, and New England Public Radio, along with television stations in Chicago and Cincinnati. His recordings have also been featured on WQXR-New York, WGBH-Boston, Minnesota Public Radio, nationally on American Public Media’s *Performance Today*, and on the Netherlands Public Radio (NPO Radio 4). As guest soloist, he has appeared with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, North Carolina’s Brevard Repertory Orchestra and the symphony orchestras of Shreveport, Duluth-Superior, Springfield (MA), McAllen (TX), Jackson (MI), and St. Olaf, under the batons of Klauspeter Seibel, Steven Smith, Dirk Meyer, Peter Dabrowski, Dennis Simons, Kevin Rhodes, Stephen Osmond, Mischa Santora, and Steven Amundson.

Mr. Atzinger’s discography includes three highly praised albums released on the MSR Classics label – a debut solo recording of Bach, Beethoven, Barber and Fritze; an all-Brahms album; and “American Lyricism” featuring works by Christopher Theofanidis, Richard Danielpour, Monica Houghton, Pierre Jalbert, and Justin Merritt. He has also recorded works of John Knowles Paine for Delos, repertoire of Judith Lang Zaimont for Naxos, and music of Amy Beach for Centaur Records.

A Michigan native, Mr. Atzinger went on to earn degrees from the University of Texas at Austin and University of Michigan, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University. Among his principal teachers he counts Julian Martin, Robert McDonald, Anton Nel, David Renner and Carolyn Lipp. Additional keyboard studies were undertaken with Timothy Lovelace, Edward Parmentier and Penelope Crawford. A dedicated teacher and coach himself, Dr. Atzinger taught at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, prior to joining the St. Olaf College music faculty in 2005 where he is currently an Associate Professor of Music. He has also lectured at The Juilliard School and Berklee College of Music, and conducted masterclasses throughout the United States.

When not onstage or in the teaching studio, Christopher can be found at home with his wife, Brenda, their three children, Abigail, Brandon, and Isaac, and their family pet, a Boston Terrier named Annabelle. In his spare time, he enjoys watching college football, playing billiards, and traveling. More info at [www.christopheratzinger.com](http://www.christopheratzinger.com).