



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

Autumn Bell, flute
Dr. Cecilia Kao, piano

March 8, 2026

2:00 PM

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Concerto in G Major for Flute and Piano
I. Spirituoso
III. Allegro spirituoso

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi
(1710-1736)

Black Anemones

Joseph Schwantner
(b.1943)

Sonata for Flute and Piano
I. Lento
II. Presto

Lowell Liebermann
(b.1961)

Harmony in Blue and Gold
I. La Princesse du Pays de la Porcelaine
IV. Fighting Peacocks

Eric Ewazen
(b.1954)

Lucinda Gatesman, flute
Layla Escatel, flute
Junhwi Goo, alto flute

Summer for Flute and Piano

Herman Beoftink
(b.1953)

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor of Music Education.

Autumn Bell is a student of Dr. Shauna Thompson.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.

Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

Program Notes

Concerto for Flute and Piano (1730s)

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710-1736)

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi was an Italian composer, violinist, and organist. He studied with local Jesi teachers, and later in Naples with the noted composer Francesco Durante. Pergolesi composed sacred music, but became best known for opera. Although he composed opera seria (serious or dramatic opera), Pergolesi's fame rested more on opera buffa (comic opera). His gift of comic characterization is best shown in the classic *La serva padrona*, while his serious style is best illustrated in *Stabat Mater*. *Concerto in G Major for Flute and Piano* displays Italian Baroque styles through lyrical melodies with a clear formal structure throughout its three movements. This arrangement for flute and piano beautifully preserves the original spirit of the orchestral-accompanying concerto. The opening movement, *Spirituoso*, presents lively rhythms and catchy melodic motifs that serve as the basis for the concerto. The second movement, *Adagio*, sharply contrasts the opening movement's energetic spirit with a singing melodic line, hinting at the styles of Italian opera. The final movement, *Allegro spiritoso*, returns to the opening, lively, dance-like mood. Pergolesi's clarity and expressive writing contribute to a joyful concerto that performers and audiences have appreciated for centuries.

Black Anemones (1980)

Joseph Schwantner (b.1943)

Joseph Schwantner, known for his dramatic and unique style and as a gifted orchestral colorist, is one of the most prominent American composers today. He holds degrees from the Chicago Conservatory and Northwestern University and previously served on the faculties of Juilliard, Eastman, and Yale. Schwantner has enjoyed particular success in the orchestral world. His *Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra* (2012, Grammy Award), among the most often performed of contemporary concert works, was commissioned for the 150th anniversary season of the New York Philharmonic. Swantner composed *Black Anemones* in 1980 as a transcription for flute and piano of a song inspired by poems of surrealist poet Agueda Pizarro. A dreamlike atmosphere reflects the child's bizarre dream about his mother: "You walk with silver lions/and wait to estrange me". The piece is the second song in Schwantner's [*Two Poems of Agueda Pizarro*](#). The text is an English translation of the original Spanish and is full of vivid imagery depicting a fantastical yet ominous dream.

Sonata for Flute and Piano (1987)

Lowell Liebermann (b.1961)

Among America's internationally recognized composers, Lowell Liebermann stands out as an artist who defies easy categorization. Liebermann has written more than one hundred forty works in all genres, several of which have gone on to become standard repertoire for their instruments. His *Sonata for Flute and Piano* and his *Gargoyles* for piano are among the most popular contemporary works for their instruments, regularly included in recital and competition programs. Each of them has been recorded on compact disc more than twenty-five times to date. The *Sonata for Flute and Piano Op.23* was written in 1987 for flautist Paula Robison and pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet as the result of a commission from the Spoleto Festival Chamber Music Series. Robison and Thibaudet gave it its first performance at the 1988 Spoleto Festival. The following year, it was chosen by the National Flute Association as one of the Best Newly Published Flute Works. It has since become one of the most frequently performed American works in the flute repertoire and has been recorded over thirty times to date on CD. The Sonata is in

two movements. The first movement, *Lento*, is a tightly organized hybrid form that combines elements of sonata and arc forms. Three main themes undergo various transformations throughout their ongoing dialogue. The second movement, *Presto energico*, features fast, perpetual motion in rondo form, drawing on material from the first movement. This movement demands the utmost virtuosity from both the pianist and the flautist.

Harmony in Blue and Gold (2012)

Eric Ewazen (b.1954)

Eric Ewazen was born in 1954 in Cleveland, Ohio. Receiving a B.M. at the Eastman School of Music, he earned M.M. and D.M.A. degrees from The Juilliard School. He is a recipient of numerous composition awards and prizes. His works have been commissioned and performed by many soloists, chamber ensembles, and orchestras in the U.S. and overseas. Ewazen's monumental flute quartet was composed for *Femme Flutale* and premiered at the 2008 Mid-Atlantic Flute Fair. Its four movements were inspired by James McNeill Whistler's '[Peacock Room](#)' at the Smithsonian Institution's Freer Gallery. Designed to showcase a Chinese blue-and-white porcelain collection, the room is full of paintings featuring peacocks and stunning interior design, an integrated room that Whistler called 'Harmony in Blue and Gold.' Ewazen's ornate textures and impressionist moods express this unique environment through his musical world of sounds and lines. The music evokes the excitement one feels upon entering, with its vivid palette of colors, intricate paintings, elaborate shelves of porcelain, a spectacular gold-coffered ceiling, and embossed leather walls. Movement one, *La Princesse du Pays de la Porcelain* ("Princess from the Land of Porcelain"), features long, lyrical lines and smooth textures that create a delicacy reminiscent of a graceful princess. Ewazen connects this character with the Asian-influenced art and Impressionist sensibilities present in the Peacock Room. Movement two, *Counterpoint of Color*, resembles the Peacock Room's busy visual richness. Movement three, *The Artisans*, represents the careful hands that produced the fine art and porcelain found within the room. And movement four, *Fighting Peacocks*, is meant to feel intense, with bird-like interjections and rapid melodic lines that build in ferocity.

Summer for Flute and Piano (2014)

Herman Beftink (b.1953)

Herman Beftink is a Dutch-American composer whose music has been featured in over 100 films and TV series. Born in the Netherlands in 1953, Beftink graduated from the Utrecht Conservatory, where he studied piano and composition, later becoming a teacher at the Conservatory's Jazz Department. After moving to California in 1982, Beftink began his career as a studio musician on many popular TV shows, including *Cheers* and *Home Improvement*. After writing music for several History Channel documentaries, Beftink gradually established himself as a diverse composer. Besides composing for film and television and winning several awards for film scoring, Herman is currently pursuing his passion for writing live performance pieces. Compositions such as *Birds* and *Spring* are among his most popular pieces. Inspired by nature, Beftink's *Seasons* is a four-movement work that comes together as one, functioning equally well as individual, standalone compositions. Each season begins and ends with a unique harmonic "signature" similar to the colors and moods representative of the four seasons. Reflecting the seasons' coming and going, Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter feature an interplay between flute and piano building to a climax, followed by a gradual descent. *Summer for Flute and Piano* is a heartfelt piece that reflects the journey of new beginnings and highlights the loved ones who have remained by your side all the while.