



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

David Diaz, Flute
Cecilia Lo-Chien Kao, Piano
Graysen Malek, String Bass
Elijah Ahmed, Drums

Sunday, April 19, 2026

7:00 pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Concerto in E Minor for Flute & Piano

I: Allegro maestoso

II: Largo

III: Rondo Russo

Saverio Mercadante
(1795-1870)

Nocturne for Flute & Piano

Georges Barrère
(1876-1944)

Tweet for Solo Piccolo

Daniel Dorff
(b. 1956)

Fantasia for Flute and Piano

Philippe Gaubert
(b. 1912)

Suite No. 1 for Flute & Piano

I: Baroque and Blue

Claude Bolling
(b. 1930)

Graysen Malek, String Bass
Elijah Ahmed, Drums

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's in Flute Performance.

David Diaz 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.

Concerto in E Minor for Flute & Piano **Saverio Mercadante (1795-1870)**

Saverio Mercadante is an Italian composer as a pivotal figure in the transition between the bel canto style of Rossini and the later 19th century. Born in 1795, he studied in Naples and succeeded Gioachino Rossini as the director of the Naples Conservatory in 1840, which he held for over thirty years. He continued composing prolifically, producing over sixty operas that influenced a young Giuseppe Verdi. Unlike Rossini's decorative vocal writing, Mercadante favored darker orchestration and dramatic intensity. His operas were wildly popular in their day and marked a clear step toward the more dramatic style that Verdi would later perfect. Despite his blindness in later years, he dictated his final works to students, which demonstrated a strong commitment to his craft until his death in 1870. Originally written for flute and orchestra, this piece features a powerful, dramatic sensibility with the first movement's *Allegro maestoso* showcasing a heroic attitude, the *Largo* offering a tender, opera-like melody, and the *Rondo Russo* concluding with a virtuosic finale that demands both technical brilliance and lyrical musicality from the soloist.

Nocturne for Flute & Piano **Georges Barrère (1876-1944)**

Celebrated as one of the most influential French flutists of the 20th century, Georges Barrère's *Nocturne* is a rare and exquisite composition intended as a showcase for his own expressive style. The piece features a quintessentially French Impressionist aesthetic, favoring long, singing melodic lines over the piano's rippling, harmonically rich textures, creating an atmosphere of nocturnal calm that highlights the flute's capacity for pure, unadorned lyricism.

Tweet for Solo Piccolo **Daniel Dorff (b. 1956)**

Daniel Dorff is an American composer and music publisher known for his programmatic works that often incorporate vivid storytelling. Daniel Dorff has become one of the most frequently performed living composers for wind instruments. The piece was premiered by Lois Bliss Herbine at the National Flute Association (NFA) convention in 2011. As the title suggests, the piece features the piccolo in a imitation of bird calls, but it later evolves into a charming, virtuosic scherzo that explores the instrument's upper register, agile articulation, and capacity for warm sounds.

Fantasia for Flute and Piano **Philippe Gaubert (b. 1912)**

One of the prominent figures in the French flute school, Philippe Gaubert was a virtuoso flutist and composer whose career culminated in the Paris Conservatory and the Paris Opéra. His compositional style is the epitome of the French Romantic tradition, blending elegant lyricism with technical brilliance. *Fantasia* was composed in 1912 as the required test piece for the Paris Conservatoire's annual *concours* (competition) featuring a structure with contrasting sections, showcasing the performer's mastery of mood.

Suite No. 1 for Flute & Piano**Claude Bolling (b. 1930)**

The French jazz pianist, composer, and arranger Claude Bolling was a virtuoso of crossover music, celebrated for blending the sophistication of classical form with the spontaneity and swing of American jazz. *Suite No. 1 for Flute & Piano* was a groundbreaking collaboration with legendary flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal, becoming one of the most commercially successful classical-jazz crossover works. The opening movement, *Baroque and Blue*, perfectly encapsulates the suite's concept that features a flute line that intertwines the elegant ornamentation of a Baroque dance with the bluesy inflections and walking bass line of a jazz combo, creating a playful and effortlessly stylish dialogue.