



VIRTUAL TEACHERS' DAY

Sunday, January 24, 2021
on Zoom

Members Meeting • Workshop • Masterclass
Performances • Discussions



SCHEDULE

*the schedule is subject to change – please check <http://miamimta.org/calendar-of-events/> for the most recent updates

4:00PM – **Welcome**

Welcome message from MMA President Dr. Paul Posnak and open meeting

4:30PM – **Masterclasses**

Piano – Irena Kofman

- Christina Koyama, 9 years old
Catherine Rollin - Concerto in C major

Piano (Baroque) – Paul Posnak

- John Wang, 16 years old
J. S. Bach - WTC Book I Prelude and Fugue No. 15 in G Major
- Emily Chea, 14 years old
J. S. Bach - WTC Book II Prelude and Fugue in E-flat Major
- Daniel Holmes, 18 years old
J.S. Bach - WTC Book I Prelude and Fugue No. 11 in F Major

6:10PM – **Workshop: Introduction to Body Mapping**

“Join Rena Urso for this brief introduction to Body Mapping where you'll increase your awareness, improve your seated balance, and enjoy more fluidity and overall ease in your playing”

6:40PM – **Pedagogy Hour**

- Rufus Jones & Alexander Magalong – Discussion/Interview: *Teenager Psychology & Motivation to engage in music*
- Yianni Iliadis – Presentation: *Faster learning for beginner piano students*
- Scott Flavin – Lecture: *Pandemic Pedagogy*

7:30PM – **Violin Masterclass – Scott Flavin**

*Student and repertoire will be announced

8:00PM – **Streamed Performance**

LIVE Introduction by Kevin Kenner, followed by streamed performance of Chopin's Concerto No. 1 transcribed for piano and string quintet

Guest Artists



The renowned Russian-American pianist **Irena Kofman** holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Miami, where she studied under Dr. Rosalina Sackstein, a pupil of the legendary Chilean pianist Claudio Arrau.

Dr. Kofman is founder of the Arcangelo Piano Quartet, a distinguished American chamber ensemble that has toured Guatemala, China and the United States to rave reviews. In the early 2000s, Dr. Kofman formed a duo with the eminent Belgian pianist André De Groote. The two performed extensively and in 2008 released the critically-acclaimed album "Russian Treasures," on the Hoot/Wisdom Recordings label. Then, in 2010, Kofman and De Groote followed up with an acclaimed interpretation of the four most significant works of Schubert's piano duet literature. The recording celebrated the 25th anniversary of the European recording label "Talent." A third De Groote-Kofman collaboration, released in 2014, shined a well-deserved spotlight on previously unknown composer Theodore Gouvy. The recording received widespread praise. As MusicWeb International critic Philip R. Buttall noted, "The performance too, is absolutely first-rate. The De Groote-Kofman team shows not only great empathy for the style, and clearly sound as if they enjoyed every single note, but in pure terms of balance and ensemble, their playing simply cannot be faulted." The recording was also lauded by the Gouvy Estate and, led to a collaboration by De Groote and Kofman at the Gouvy Museum in France.

Dr. Kofman continues to collaborate with other outstanding musicians such as Japanese violinist Junko Outsu. A recent concert by the duo, hosted by the Japanese Consulate, honored victims of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. As a solo artist, Dr. Kofman performs regularly for audiences locally, across the United States, and abroad. Among other solo honors, she has played for His Holiness the Dalai Lama at his "Compassion as a Pillar of World Peace" presentation and at TEDxBocaRaton.

In addition to her accomplishments as a performer and recording artist, Dr. Kofman is an award-winning teacher, widely sought out by students aspiring to play at the highest levels. She received a Diploma of Recognition from the American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music 2011 and was honored by the American Protégé International Music Talent Competition multiple times (2012, 2016, 2017, 2018) for "extraordinary dedication and achievement in the field of teaching music and presenting students to perform at Carnegie Hall." In 2014 she received further recognition from Florida State University for "Excellence in Teaching Award." This honor is especially prestigious as it was organized and led by the renowned Canadian pianist Joel Hastings.

Dr. Kofman's unique approach to teaching — combining compassion with uncompromising focus on excellence — has earned her the devotion of her students. Carrying their mentor's lessons forward, many have attained great success in their own right as performers and educators throughout the Americas, in the Former Soviet Union, and across Europe. Dr. Kofman has taught master classes and lectured at Florida State University's Piano Symposium, the prestigious Salzburg Summer Program, the International Concerto Festival in Russia, the World

Piano Conference in Slovenia and at the Cremona International Music Academy in Italy. In addition, she has taught and performed in Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, France, Poland, China, Guatemala, Bahamas and Curacao.

Dr. Kofman is currently a distinguished member of the Cremona International Academy faculty in Italy and Director of Keyboard Studies at Florida Atlantic University.



Paul Posnak's international career as a concert pianist, recording artist, transcriber and sought-after teacher began as a child prodigy with a full scholarship to the Juilliard Preparatory School of Music at the age of eight. Recipient of Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral degrees at Juilliard, and of the Loeb Prize (Juilliard's highest award), he won First Prizes in the International J.S. Bach Competition and the Concert Artists Guild Competition in New York. He has performed at the White House, The Supreme Court, and The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., at Carnegie Recital and Tully Halls in New York, and throughout Europe, South America, and Asia to critical acclaim. A highly regarded collaborative artist, Dr. Posnak has worked with many world-renowned vocalists, including Luciano Pavarotti and Jennie Tourel, and performed and recorded with many of the world's leading chamber ensembles, including the Emerson, Fine Arts, Vega, St. Petersburg, Amernet, Portland and Bergonzi String Quartets. His 18 recordings

of solo and chamber works for EMI, Naxos, Vox, Arabesque, Centaur and the Yamaha Disklavier Artist Series have received the highest praise from the leading international press. His recent film on Chopin, directed by documentary film maker Anthony Allegro, has also attracted international attention. In 2007, a CD recording, "The Tangos of Ernesto Nazareth," was released on the Cambria label. His recent performances as soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra at The Kennedy Center were described by The Washington Post as playing "with respect and passion, producing readings that were as notable for their musicality and their artistic integrity as they were for their pianism". In May, 2003, he gave a special performance for The Supreme Court of the United States. In 2005 and 2006, Dr. Posnak served as a judge of the Grammy

Awards in Los Angeles. Recent engagements throughout the U.S. include a recital and master class at the Tanglewood Institute in MA, recital tours to Wash., D.C. (The National Gallery Concert Series), CA, NY, WA, TX, OH, and NM, and concerto performances with the New Philharmonic, Far Cry and Kremlin Chamber Orchestras and the Lynn University Philharmonia. Recent engagements in Europe and Japan include artist-in-residencies at the Akademie Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, at the Academie Pianistique Internationale in Aix-en-Provence, at Festival St. Cere in Quercy, France, and most recently, a three-week concert and master class tour of Japan. He is the Founding Artistic Director of the St. Martha-Yamaha Concert Series in Miami Shores, FL.

Dr. Posnak is internationally renowned for his improvisations and note-for-note transcriptions of the great jazz pianist-composers of the 1920's and 1930's. His note-for-note reconstructions of the brilliant solo improvisations of George Gershwin and Thomas "Fats" Waller from the old studio recordings and radio broadcasts have established him as a world authority. Of his CD,

"Gershwin's Piano Improvisations", The Washington Post said: "It is remarkably like having Gershwin himself in digital stereo". His transcriptions of 16 of Thomas "Fats" Waller's greatest solos have been re-issued in their second edition by Hal Leonard. His arrangements of Gershwin Songs for Two Pianos were published by Alfred in August 2007, and were selected by the Murray Dranoff International Two-Piano Competition as the required work for the 2008 Competition. His original arrangements of twelve canciones of Ernesto Lecuona has just been released on CD, "To Lecuona With Love", and in a coordinated publication by Hal Leonard. Clavier said of his Naxos CD, "Ain't Misbehavin'", "Posnak's performances have the spontaneous character so necessary for Waller's music, and he breezes through the hard-to-play passages with all the facility and verve of Liszt". He is a featured artist on many National Public Radio and European radio broadcasts. Fluent in French and German, he is in much demand as a teacher and clinician both in the U.S. and abroad.

Dr. Posnak is Professor Emeritus of Keyboard Performance and Director of the Collaborative Piano Program at the University of Miami, Frost School of Music, and is a recipient of the 2008 UM Excellence in Teaching Award. He is currently President of the Miami Music Teachers Association.



Scott Flavin is a lecturer in violin performance and chamber music and Resident Conductor for The Henry Mancini Institute at The Frost School of Music.

In addition to his extensive teaching, he enjoys an incredibly versatile musical career. He is a highly sought-after concertmaster, having served from 2002 to 2019 as concertmaster of Florida Grand Opera, and having appeared in that role with major conductors and performers, including such diverse artists as Luciano Pavarotti, Lena Home, and Itzhak Perlman. Equally active in chamber music, Flavin is the first violinist of the internationally-acclaimed Bergonzi String Quartet and violinist of PULSE Trio, who regularly perform across the country and around the world, premiering new works and regularly receiving glowing reviews by publications such as the New York Times and Washington Post.

Flavin holds several important positions as a conductor, including Resident Conductor with The Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra and Music Director of the Miami Mozarteum Orchestra. He has appeared on the podium with artists including Chick Corea, Bobby McFerrin, and Joseph Silverstein. He has conducted for various festivals, and the nationally-broadcast "Jazz and the Philharmonic" for PBS television.

Flavin is also an active arranger, composer, and writer. He has written four plays that have been presented in productions across the country and writes articles regularly for various publications.

His arrangements for string quartet are popular, having been heard often on radio (Performance Today) and around the country in concert, as well as recorded by the Bergonzi String Quartet. His composition *Fragment(s)* was premiered in 2017 at the Mainly Mozart Festival, and other works have been performed on radio and in concert.

As a recording artist, he is constantly in demand. His recordings include chamber music on the Naxos, M&W, and Centaur labels, and commercial recordings on Sony, EMI, and Warner

Brothers, including appearances on over a dozen Grammy Award-winning albums, with such stars such as Placido Domingo, Michael Jackson, and Shakira. He has also performed on television several times for MTV Unplugged and the Video Music Awards.

Scott Flavin grew up in Boston, where he received his early musical training, and then attended the Eastman School of Music. He was a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra for seven years, and concertmaster of Miami City Ballet for six years.



Dr. Rufus Jones Jr. began his formal training as an orchestral conductor at the University of Texas at Austin. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music, he continued his formal training as a Clifford D. Clarke Graduate Fellow at the State University of New York in Binghamton where he received a Master of Music degree in Instrumental Conducting. Dr. Jones completed his formal training at Texas Tech University where he received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Orchestral Conducting.

Dr. Jones has studied with internationally recognized conductors like Louis Lane, Gustav Meier, Kirk Trevor, Donald Portnoy, Timothy Perry, Kenneth Kiesler, and Gary Lewis.

Dr. Jones has conducted youth, university and professional orchestras throughout this country and abroad. He has been accepted to prestigious conducting programs like the Tanglewood Music Festival (auditor), and the Conductors Institute in South Carolina (fellow) and the Leiston Abbey Conducting Masterclass in Suffolk, England (fellow).

His professional career started as Assistant Conductor of the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra in 1998, under the leadership of then music director, Maestro Kirk Trevor.

As a guest conductor Dr. Jones has appeared with the Utah Symphony, Shreveport Symphony, Siena Chamber Orchestra, Detroit Youth Symphony, Omaha Area Youth Symphony, Binghamton Youth Symphony, and the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, to name a few.

Prior to moving to South Florida, Dr. Jones was Assistant Professor of Music at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. He served as director of the chamber music program, wind ensemble, and symphony orchestra. He also taught courses in music theory, music history, and conducting.

His academic research has focused on African American classical musicians. His work has been published in an internationally recognized peer-reviewed journal and encyclopedia. Dr. Jones has written extensively on the music of William Grant Still. In 2009, his three volume edition, *The Collected Folk Suites of William Grant Still* was published and featured at the Inaugural William Grant Still Tribute Conference in Natchez, Mississippi. The principal string players of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra premiered the string quartets from his collection.

His latest project, *Dean Dixon: Negro at Home, Maestro Abroad* is the first ever full-length biography of one of the greatest American conductors of the twentieth century. It was released on April 16, 2015. Alex Ross, music critic for the *New Yorker*, selected Dr. Jones' book as one of "nine notable music books of 2015." In 2018 his paperback edition was released.

Dr. Jones is currently Music Director at Gulliver Preparatory, Lead Conductor of the Miami Music Project Leaders Orchestra, and conductor of the Florida Youth Orchestra's, Principal Orchestra.



Alexander Magalong has most recently served as assistant conductor of the Palm Beach Symphony, associate conductor of the Frost Symphony Orchestra, and Concert Orchestra conductor for the Greater Miami Youth Symphony. According to the *South Florida Classical Review*, "Magalong was particularly adept at keeping the ensemble cohesive during the tricky twists of melodic phrasing." Mr. Magalong was a finalist for music director of the Pikes Peak Philharmonic and has also conducted for the Henry

Mancini Institute Orchestra, Broadmoor Pops Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, and the Peakharmonic Youth Orchestra. He has conducted the orchestral world premieres of *Fanfares for the Apocalypse* by Ken Ueno, *Setting Century* by Dorothy Hindman, and *Symphony #3* by James Stephenson.

Having taught high school, junior high, and elementary orchestra for an underprivileged school district for nine years, Mr. Magalong is a passionate advocate for music education in the public schools. Under his direction and active recruitment, his high school program tripled in size, resulting in four ability-based string orchestras, the most of any Colorado high school. In 2011, the Widefield High School Chamber Strings was selected to perform at the Colorado Music Educators Association conference alongside more affluent schools.

As a respected educator in Colorado, Mr. Magalong has guest conducted many honor orchestras, festivals, music camps, youth orchestras, and educator conferences in Denver,

Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Westminster, Jefferson County, and the Boulder Valley. He served on the Colorado All-State Orchestra board as Southern Governor for six years and has adjudicated many festivals throughout the state.

Mr. Magalong holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Denver and two graduate degrees (a Master of Music and a Doctor of Musical Arts) in Instrumental Conducting from the University of Miami. He was selected as a participant for the 2018 Ithaca International Conducting Masterclass and has conducted in workshops with the Rochester Philharmonic, Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, and the Fargo-Morehead Symphony. He has studied conducting primarily with Thomas Sleeper.



Pianist Yianni Iliadis, has enjoyed concerto performances, solo recitals, and chamber music concerts in the US and abroad and is on the faculty of the Killington Music Festival in Vermont. He frequently collaborates on recitals, competitions, masterclasses, and chamber music concerts. He has played with artists such as Valerie Coleman, and John Barcellona, and performs at many conferences and music series. These include the Florida Flute Association Convention, Florida State Music Teachers Association Convention, Mid-South Flute Festival at University of Memphis, TN, and frequent invitations to the Kaleidoscope MusArt concert series.

Yianni is a doctoral candidate at the Frost School of Music - University of Miami, where he is piano teaching assistant. At the Frost School, he is primary instructor of undergraduate group piano classes, teaches private piano lessons, accompanies recitals, and is the assistant

of the Keyboard Department. His interest in piano pedagogy fuels his current research project on devising material for group piano classes. Yianni graduated from the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University – Long Beach with a Master of Music. During his time at CSULB, he was awarded a full scholarship, Graduate Assistantship in the Keyboard Studies program, Frank A. Lee & Elaine Richey Scholarship, Award of Exceptional Ability and Outstanding Achievements in the Area of Keyboard Studies, and the College of the Arts Distinguished Achievement in Creative Activity Award. Yianni completed his Bachelor of Music at the University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece. He also holds the Piano Diploma from the State Conservatory of Thessaloniki, where he graduated with the Outstanding Performance Award. As winner of the State Conservatory of Thessaloniki and the CSULB concerto competitions, he has performed with the Symphony Orchestra of the Municipality of Thessaloniki and the Bob Cole Conservatory Symphony.

Yianni's teachers include Santiago Rodriguez, Tian Ying, Naoko Takao, Shun-Lin Chou, and Margarita Efraimidou. His chamber music coaches include Craig Richey, Trudy Kane, Charles Castleman, Jodi Levitz, and he has performed in master classes with notable pianists Edward Wolanin, Norman Krieger, Joseph Kalichstein, and Mikhail Voskresensky.



Rena Urso enjoys a flourishing career as a freelance orchestral and chamber musician all over California. In addition to being on the faculty at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University Long Beach and California State University Stanislaus, she is the Second Flutist of the *Oakland Symphony* and the *Oregon Coast Music Festival Orchestra*. Rena is the former Piccoloist of the *New York City Opera National Company* (1999 & 2000) and *San Francisco Opera's Western Opera Theater* (2000-2019). A regular substitute/extra with many of the orchestras throughout California including the *San Francisco Opera*, *Pacific Symphony*, *Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra*, *Monterey, Marin, Santa Rosa, Berkeley, Modesto, and California Symphonies*, *Carmel Bach Festival*, and *Festival Mozaic*, Rena has also performed with the *Seattle Symphony*,

American Ballet Theater, *Bolshoi Ballet*, *Mark Morris Dance Group*, *Hawaii Symphony*, and the *Detroit Symphony Orchestra*. A versatile musician who records for video games, television, radio, and film, Rena has also performed with the National Tours of *Wicked* and *Phantom of the Opera*.

As a Licensed Body Mapping Educator (ABME), Rena presents workshops and masterclasses all over the world, as well as the course she created at CSULB, *Body Mapping for the Performing Artist*. Her popular monthly column in *The Flute View* covers a myriad of topics related to injury prevention and musician wellness. Rena is also a RYT-200 certified yoga teacher and certified meditation teacher.

During the unusual time of COVID, Rena has participated in many virtual performances and teaching collaborations including an outstanding new resource for the piccolo, *Practice with the Experts; Piccolo Edition*, the immensely successful weekly workshops, *Practice the Piccolo*, and a regularly occurring series of workshops, *Crafting the Beautiful Etude*, focusing on Use of Self as it applies to the study and performance of standard flute etudes. In 2021, the dynamic new online *International Piccolo Academy* will launch. This extraordinary new resource will contain performance and instructional videos as well as a variety of other helpful tools presented by some of the finest piccolo players and pedagogues from all over the world. Rena is delighted to be a part of this team and the exciting and unique adventure for the piccolo, as a teaching and performing artist, with contributions focusing on Body Mapping for piccolo players.

An active member of the National Flute Association, Rena regularly performs at the annual conventions, serves as an adjudicator for various competitions, and is a member of the NFA's Performance Health Committee.

Rena is a Course Coordinator for California State University Summer Arts with her unique and popular biennial flute course, *The Complete 21st Century Flutist*, taking place again in July 2021 at California State University Fresno. She has been a guest artist at the Iowa Flute and Piccolo Intensive summer courses and is a frequent guest artist at the International Piccolo Festival in Grado, Italy.

A native of Detroit, Michigan, Rena received her Bachelor of Music from Wayne State University, and her Master of Music with honors from California State University Long Beach. She is extraordinarily grateful for her mentors; Robert Patrick, Clement Barone Jr., John Barcellona, Anne Zentner, and her father, Santo Urso.

For more information about Rena, please visit: www.renaurso.com



The year 1990 was a milestone for pianist **Kevin Kenner**, whose artistry was recognized throughout the world by three prestigious awards: the top prize at the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw (together with the Peoples' Prize and prize for the best Polonaise), the recipient of the International Terrence Judd Award in London, and the bronze medal at the Tchaikovsky International Competition in Moscow (together with the prize for best performance of a Russian work). It was the first time an American pianist had managed to win prizes in both the Chopin and Tchaikovsky Competitions. And in the years leading up to those remarkable accomplishments, he won prizes at the Van Cliburn International Competition (Fort Worth, 1989) and the Gina Bachauer International Competition (Salt Lake City, 1988).

Kevin Kenner's achievements have won him critical acclaim throughout the world. He has been praised as "one of the finest American pianists to come along in years" (Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune), "...fulfilling a criterion which one only knows from great Chopinists such as Rubinstein, Benedetti-Michelangeli and Dinu Lipatti" (Winfried Wild, Schwaebische Zeitung, Germany). Adrian Jack of London's Independent describes one of Kenner's recitals as "...the best performance I have ever heard in the concert hall of all four of Chopin's Ballades". The Financial Times described Kenner as a "player of grace, subtle variety and strength, with a mature grasp of dramatic structure and proportion: in short, a grown-up musician nearing his peak." And the Washington Post recently proclaimed him "a major talent... an artist whose intellect, imagination and pianism speak powerfully and eloquently." The conductor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, who recorded with pianists such as Artur Rubinstein, claimed Kenner's Chopin interpretations to be the most sensitive and beautiful he remembered.

Born in southern California, Kenner showed his interest in piano from a very young age and studied there with Polish pianist Krzysztof Brzuza. As a teenager, Brzuza sent him to



Poland to audition for the eminent professor Ludwik Stefanski, who immediately prepared him for the 1980 International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, where he was the youngest competitor and in which he received a special award as the most promising talent.

Kenner's sojourn in Poland took place during a momentous period in Polish history, coinciding with the beginnings of Solidarity, strikes, protests and severe food shortages. This left an indelible impression and initiated a lifelong love affair with Poland. Following the death of his Polish teacher, he continued his studies for the next five years with legendary pianist Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. Returning to Europe once again, Kenner concluded his formal training in Hannover with Karl-Heinz Kämmerling and made his permanent home in Europe. Kenner now resides in Krakow and London, where he teaches at the Royal College of Music.

Kenner has performed as soloist with world-class orchestras including the Hallé Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, the Warsaw Philharmonic, the Czech Philharmonic, the Belgian Radio and Television Philharmonic, the NHK Symphony of Japan, and in the US with the principal orchestras of San Francisco, San Diego, Salt Lake City, Kansas City, New Jersey, Rochester, Baltimore, St. Paul and many others. He has been invited to work with renowned conductors, including Sir Charles Groves, Andrew Davis, Hans Vonk, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, Jerzy Maksymiuk, Kazimierz Kord, Jiri Belohlavek and Antoni Wit.

He has been invited to perform chamber music with illustrious string quartets such as the Belcea, Tokyo, Endellion, Vogler and Panocha to name but a few. He has toured and recorded with the Piazzoforte ensemble performing special arrangements of Astor Piazzolla, Chopin, and Bach. He is also creator and artistic director of the Ensemble XIX, performing the concert music of Chopin on 19th century instruments. He has been invited to adjudicate in some of the most celebrated international piano competitions in Asia, Europe and the US. And in 2010 he comes full circle, having been asked to serve as a juror on the next International Chopin Competition.

Kevin Kenner's recordings are distributed internationally and include many discs of Chopin works as well as recordings of Ravel, Schumann, Beethoven and Piazzolla, the latter having been awarded a "Fryderyk" in Poland as best CD of the year under the category Chamber Music. He has also established himself as a specialist in period instruments and his recent recording of Chopin solo piano works on an 1848 Pleyel for the National Chopin Institute of Poland received a 5 star "superb" rating by the French magazine Diapason.

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