



University of North Texas College of Music

Ensemble Recital | Wednesday, October 30, 2024 | 7:30 p.m.
Margot and Bill Winspear Performance Hall - Murchison Performing Arts Center

UNT Symphony Orchestra

Ella Castro, conductor
Patricio Gutiérrez, conductor
Nathan Howard, conductor
David Mery, conductor

Overture to "The Merry Wives of Windsor" Otto Nicolai
(1849) (1810-1849)

Ella Castro, conductor

Dances of Galánta..... Zoltán Kodály
(1933) (1882-1967)

Patricio Gutiérrez, conductor

-INTERMISSION-

Overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Felix Mendelssohn
(1862) (1809-1847)

David Mery, conductor

Program one hundred and seventeen of the 2024-2025 season
Photography and videography are prohibited

Symphony No. 1 in G MinorVasily Kalinnikov
(1895) (1866-1901)

II. Andante commodamente

Ella Castro, conductor

Variations on a Theme by Joseph Haydn, Op. 56a Johannes Brahms
(1874) (1833-1897)

I. Theme. Choral St. Antoni. Andante

II. Andante con moto

III. Vivace

IV. Con moto

V. Andante

VI. Poco presto

Ella Castro, conductor

VII. Vivace

VIII. Grazioso

IX. Poco presto

X. Finale

Nathan Howard, conductor

UNT Symphony Orchestra
Personnel

Violin 1

Alfiia Mansurova ‡
Kejin Chen
Olivia Corporon
Ella Curb
Lucas Furtado
Emma Millian
Eleanor (Szu Yun) Wang
Hongrui Wang

Violin 2

Ming-Wei Hsieh ‡
Mia Caliri
Ray (Jui-Chen) Hsu
Hyun Jung Kim
Anna Seo
Peng Yi
Emilia Yoon

Viola

Leonardo Sobral ‡
Anthony Couvillion
Kelsey Felton
Qianqian Fu

Cello

Eric Rau ‡
Julia Jiho Choi
Iris (Chao) Fang
Maddy Dykhouse
Ethan Nelsen
Camilo Vasquez

Bass

Wyatt Gaugler ‡
Ruben Borges
Joe Ferris
Joseph La Marca

Flute

Mary Chamoun +&^
James (Chen-Yu) Lee*#
Alison Parker

Oboe

Alexander Kang +&^
Hayley Monk *#
Hyungju Oh

Clarinet

Erick Morales *#
Ayuna Sumi +&^

Bassoon

Artur Kuchurivsky
Keliang Li +&^
Sam Viebrock *#

French Horn

Justin Beyer
Isaac Fowler
Becca Geitzenauer *#
Patrick Ring +&^

Trumpet

David Hall ^
Lexy Kilgore *#+
Joseph Williams

Trombone

Benjamin Hahn *
Thomas Spencer

Bass Trombone

Aaron Anderton-Coss

Timpani

Raina Liao

Percussion

Ryan Blankenship
Ryan Hurford
Adam Surak
Caleb Yurasek

Harp

Zoë Winn

‡ Concertmaster

† Principal

* Principal on Nicolai

Principal on Kodály

+ Principal on Mendelssohn

& Principal on Kalinnikov

^Principal on Brahms

Orchestral Studies

David Itkin, Anshel Brusilow Professor of Orchestral Studies

Clay Couturiaux, Assistant Director of Orchestral Studies

Patricio Gutierrez, Doctoral Conducting Associate/Librarian

Ella Castro, Doctoral Conducting Associate/Personnel Manager

Nathan Howard, Doctoral Conducting Associate/Operations Manager

Biographies

Ella Castro is a Filipino soprano, conductor, and composer. A jack of many trades, Ella has a stellar career in singing and teaching diverse genres from pop to classical, leading choirs and orchestras, and composing and arranging musicals and choral works. Under the guidance of her voice professor Dr. Terrie Sanders, she won numerous accolades in her singing career, including placing first in National Association of Teachers for Singing – Louisiana State in 2022. She also had her own voice studio in Northwestern State University (NSU) School of Creative and Performing Arts, teaching students ranging from teenagers to college students. She was also the interim director of NSU Men's Chorus for almost two years. As a chorister, Ella had traveled to different parts of the world (Asia, Europe, and USA) joining local and international choral competitions. She made her orchestral debut conducting with the Natchitoches Northwestern Symphony Orchestra in 2022 and had then conducted various concerts with them. She was the chorumaster and assistant conductor of Spotlight on Opera 2023's productions of Puccini's "Suor Angelica", and "Madama Butterfly" held in Shreveport, Louisiana under the guidance of Dr. William Reber and Ms. Kristin Roach. Back in the Philippines, she was the resident musical director and composer of Teatro Kalsayeño, Caloocan City Science High School's theatre group from 2014 to 2020, composing various musicals for and with them. Currently, she is the personnel manager of University of North Texas - Orchestral Studies where she is working on her doctorate degree in orchestral conducting under Maestro David Itkin. As a graduate student conductor, she conducts and assists the UNT Symphony Orchestra and Concert Orchestra.

Described by the Chilean Newspaper, El Centro, as "a bright young talent," Chilean cellist and conductor **Patricio Gutiérrez** has performed in Canada, United States, Peru, Argentina, and Chile. A dedicated cello instructor, Gutiérrez has taught in several youth orchestras in Maule and Bio-bio regions in Chile between 2009-15, as well as in the DFW area from 2018. Patricio is also an active arranger, organizing pieces for cello duets, trios, quartets, and string ensembles. Born into a non-musical family in Santiago, Chile, Gutiérrez began studying classical guitar at the age of eight and switched to cello at the age of ten. Patricio graduated from Universidad de Talca in 2012 under the guidance of Alejandro Tagle. In 2013 Patricio was the recipient of the Universia Scholarship of Santander Bank in Chile, which allowed him to spend one semester as an exchange student at University of Connecticut, taking cello lessons with the cellist of the Penderecki Quartet, Katie Schlaikjer. In 2018, Patricio graduated from The Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory in Toronto where he finished his Artist Diploma, working with both cello teachers Desmond Hoebig and Andrés Díaz. In 2020, Patricio graduated from his MM in cello performance under the guidance of Andrés Díaz at SMU. In 2022, Patricio graduated from his MM in orchestral conducting

under the guidance of Dr. Paul Phillips at SMU. In 2024, Patricio was appointed assistant conductor of Lewisville Lake Symphony. Currently, Patricio is pursuing his Doctoral studies at the University of North Texas under David Itkin.

Nathan Howard is a multi-instrumentalist and conductor pursuing a Doctorate at the University of North Texas under Maestro David Itkin. Following graduate studies at Southern Methodist University, he served as resident conductor of the Meadows Symphony Orchestra. Nathan also studied at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he recorded with the New Music Ensemble. As an ensemble leader, he was Music Director for The Camp-of-the-Woods jazz band and conducted the Lviv National Philharmonic, Meadows Symphony Orchestra and Samford University Orchestra. His previous conducting teachers include Paul C. Phillips, Jack Delaney, and Michelle Merrill.

David Mery is an international student sponsored by the Fulbright-Garcia Robles program for graduate studies. He currently studies in the master's degree program in Orchestral Conducting at UNT supervised by Professor David Itkin. His most notable contribution to music life in Mexico comes from his two years as artistic director and conductor of the "Alfredo A. Gonzalez" Youth Symphony Orchestra in the city of Durango. He was also a Theory and Analysis instructor in *Universidad Juarez del Estado de Durango* (UJED). From 2018 to 2020 he studied for a master's degree in Orchestral Conducting in *Universidad Veracruzana* (UV) under the supervision of Lanfranco Marcelletti. During this time, he had the opportunity to conduct various ensembles from the city of Xalapa including Nova Funem Ensemble and *Orquesta Universitaria de Musica Popular* (OUMP). David started his private musical studies in 2006 and in 2010 his bachelor program in Music in Saltillo, Coahuila. In this city he has helped develop musical activity by creating and conducting ensembles. One of these ensembles, *Camerata Cuarto Creciente*, is still active during summertime and has generated offshoots that still influence the musical life of Saltillo.