



University of North Texas  
College of Music

Senior Recital | Friday, April 18, 2025 | 8:00 p.m. | Merrill Ellis Intermedia Theater

---

**Evan Bahm, percussion**

---

José / beFORe John 5 (2000) ..... Aurél Holló  
(b. 1966)

Joseph Woodburn, Jack Wilkinson, and Rune Hale, percussion

SyNc (2018)..... Gene Koshinski  
(b. 1980)

from Three Movements for a Solo Dancer (n.d.) ..... Eckhard Kopetzki  
II. Dance on a Shattered Mirror (b. 1956)

The Game of the Century (2014) ..... Connor Shafran  
(n.d.)

Hanna Le, percussion

Doing the Wrong Thing (2004) ..... Kaki King  
(b. 1979)

arr. Evan Bahm

William Chenoweth, drumset

Over the Rainbow (1939) ..... Harold Arlen  
(1905–1986)

arr. Robert Oetomo

*For Jonathan*

Pushpanjali - Variations on a Melody by Madurai R. Muralidaran  
(2025) ..... Evan Bahm  
(b. 2003)

Max Rubenstein-Miller, bass guitar | Hannah McDowall, cello

Joseph Woodburn, marimba | Hanna Le, vibraphone

Todd Kiefer, drumset | Noah Carillo, marimba

---

**Program five hundred eighty-three of the 2024–2025 season**  
**Photography and videography are prohibited**

## Program Notes

### **José / beFORe John 5 - Aurel Holló (b. 1966)**

Aurel Hollo's *beFORe John* series is a collection of nine pieces, each of which are in some way connected to the number 153. This number, along with its biblical significance, has several unique mathematical properties:

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10 + 11 + 12 + 13 + 14 + 15 + 16 + 17 = 153$$
$$(1) + (1 \times 2) + (1 \times 2 \times 3) + (1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4) + (1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5) = 153$$
$$1^3 + 5^3 + 3^3 = 153$$

The fifth installment in the series, entitled "José", is deeply inspired by traditional African xylophone music, as well as Spanish and Romani folk music.

### **SyNc - Gene Koshinski (b. 1980)**

*SyNc* is a composition for concert snare drum written by Gene Koshinski that explores the synchronization of experimental musical ideas. In this piece, the snare drum is played with nontraditional implements, a recurring theme in Koshinski's work, including a kalimba, a glass marble, and fiberglass chopsticks. Along with representing synchronization, the name "SyNc" has an intentional phonetic similarity to "Cinco", reflecting the use of fives as a rhythmic foundation for musical ideas found in the piece.

### **II. Dance on a Shattered Mirror (from Three Movements for a Solo Dancer) by Eckhard Kopetzki (b. 1956)**

*Dance on a Shattered Mirror* is a marimba solo that utilizes rhythmically ambiguous and dance-like passages to illustrate the beauty that is often present within chaos. As the title suggests, the piece's sound and frantic time signature changes evoke the image of a dancer navigating through the metaphorical shards of their shattered reflection, symbolic of the emotional and creative breaking points that artists often push themselves to in an effort to achieve their goals.

### **The Game of the Century - Connor Shafran**

A percussive recreation of the historic 1956 chess match between GM Donald Byrne (White), and 13-year old chess prodigy Bobby Fischer (Black). Aptly dubbed "The Game of the Century", This game marked a historic turning point in Fischer's career as it launched him into international spotlight, where he would develop into one of the most significant figures in the history of competitive chess

### **Doing the Wrong Thing - Kaki King (b. 1979), arr. Evan Bahm (b. 2003)**

A composition from American "guitar god" Kaki King arranged for vibraphone and drumset. Kaki King is a contemporary acoustic guitarist and composer who has pushed the boundaries of the instrument through the incorporation of complex percussive techniques and intricate fingerpicking passages, giving her music a distinct sound that has influenced countless artists across a wide range of genres.

**Over the Rainbow - Harold Arlen (1905-1986), arr. Robert Oetomo (b. 1988)**

First heard in *The Wizard of Oz* (1939), "Over the Rainbow" has a wistful and uplifting nature powerful enough to keep the song relevant and recognizable 85 years after being written. The song captures a desire to transcend the pain our world can bring us and live in a land beyond everyday existence, where the beauty of life shines above all else. While a physical land "over the rainbow" may not be real in the traditional sense, the story of *The Wizard of Oz* reminds us that often, what we desire has been within us all along.

The performance of this piece is dedicated to my brother, Jonathan, who passed away in 2022.

**Pushpanjali - Variations on a Melody by Madurai R. Muralidaran - Evan Bahm (b. 2003)**

*Dedicated to my teacher, Poovalur Sriji*

This original composition is built upon a traditional melody written by Indian composer and dancer Madurai R. Muralidharan. While it has its roots in classical Indian music, this composition is heavily influenced by the music of Armenian jazz pianist Tigran Hamasyan, as well as the rhythmic structures of Swedish metal band Meshuggah. Pushpanjali, which translates to "offering of flowers", is a category of carnatic composition that is most commonly found in an Indian devotional dance called Bharatanatyam. This piece was written in Misra Jathi Ata Talam, also known as 18/16 time signature, with beat divisions (7 + 7 + 2 + 2).