



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

# University of North Texas College of Music

MHTE Special Event | Wed., Nov. 15 - Thurs., Nov 16, 2023 | M258 and MEIT (M1001)

## **BOULANGER SYMPOSIUM**

November 15

9:00 - 9:50 am | Émile Naoumoff - MU258

### **Guest Talk: Nadia Boulanger Through the Lens of Her Last Student**

Pianist Émile Naoumoff shares his recollections and memories of his beloved teacher, giving us a window into the pedagogical approaches of Ms. Boulanger and the broader Parisian/French school in the later part of the twentieth century.

10:00 - 10:50 am | Philip Lasser - MU290

### **Guest Lecture: An Intro to Boulanger-Inspired Approaches to Counterpoint**

Dr. Lasser introduces Nadia Boulanger's approach to musical aesthetics in counterpoint, based on his studies with Boulanger herself and with Narcís Bonet. He will present a generally applicable approach that is not strictly confined to sixteenth or eighteenth century practices.

11:00 - 11:50 am | Philip Lasser - MEIT

### **Talk/Discussion: Selected Works of Philip Lasser (co-presented by the Division of Composition Studies 'Music Now' Series)**

Dr. Lasser discusses two original works that will be performed in the evening concert: 'Unwanted Blues' for violin and piano, and 'Chorale Prelude and Passacaillesque' for marimba and piano, along with general discussion on how Nadia Boulanger has influenced his general compositional practice.

2:30 - 3:50 pm | Émile Naoumoff - MU295

### **Talk/Discussion: The Process of Improvisation in Western Art Music**

Mr. Naoumoff sheds light on his approach to the somewhat-lost art of improvisation in the Western Art Music tradition. Émile has many recorded improvisations on his YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@dafeneo](http://www.youtube.com/@dafeneo)

4:00 - 5:15 pm | Kimberly Francis - MU321

### **Nadia, Igor, and Lili: The Sonata for Two Pianos as homage (co-presented by the Division of Music History, Theory and Ethnomusicology Lecture Series)**

Dr. Francis presents her recent research as part of the MHTE Lecture Series.

8:00 - 9:30 pm | Philip Lasser & Émile Naoumoff

**Evening Concert - Recital Hall**

UNT percussion, violin, and piano students perform two works by Philip Lasser, followed by a solo piano program from Mr. Naoumoff featuring works by Nadia and Lili Boulanger, Fauré, and the pianist's own compositions.

November 16

9:30 - 10:50 am | Philip Lasser - MU289

**Talk/Discussion: An Intro to Boulanger-Inspired Approaches to Harmony**

Dr. Lasser introduces a pedagogy of harmony based on his studies with Boulanger herself and with Narcís Bonet. He will present a set of voice leading and doubling principles for a variety of chord positions and qualities, with further discussion on Boulanger's approach to analysis and the identification of common harmonic standards and patterns in Western Music.

5:30 pm | Philip Lasser, Kimberly Francis & Émile Naoumoff - MU288

**Final Panel Discussion: The Legacies of Nadia and Lili Boulanger**

Guest Artists

**Émile Naoumoff** is professor of piano at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he has been on faculty since 1998. Émile revealed himself as a musical prodigy at age five, taking up the piano and adding composition to his studies a year later. At the age of seven, after a fateful meeting in Paris, he became the last disciple of Nadia Boulanger, who referred to him as "the gift of my old age." Upon the death of Mlle. Boulanger, Naoumoff took over her classes at the summer sessions of the Conservatoire d'Art Americain in Fontainebleau.

Dr. **Kimberly Francis** (University of Guelph) is the author of *Teaching Stravinsky: Nadia Boulanger and the Consecration of a Modernist Icon* (Oxford University Press, 2015) which won the prestigious ASCAP-Deems Taylor/Virgil Thomson Award in 2016. She is the editor of *Nadia Boulanger and the Stravinskys: A Selected Correspondence* (University of Rochester Press, 2018), and co-editor with Jeanice Brooks of *Nadia Boulanger: Thoughts on Music* (University of Rochester Press, 2020).

Dr. **Philip Lasser** (The Juilliard School) is a composer with both French and American cultural roots. At an early age, Lasser entered Nadia Boulanger's famed Ecole d'Arts Americaines in Fontainebleau, France. Following his studies at Harvard College, Lasser lived in Paris, where he worked with Boulanger's closest colleague and disciple, Narcís Bonet, and legendary pianist Gaby Casadesus. Lasser is Director of the European American Music Alliance (EAMA) Summer Music Institute and Academy, dedicated to training composers, chamber musicians, and conductors in the serious study of musical discourse.

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**Three hundred ninety-ninth program of the 2023–2024 season**  
**Photography and videography are prohibited**