

Hello,

to all our alumni and friends of the Department of Music at UNM. After this strange year, we hope that we will be able to get back to performing in the fall semester but until then here's some news from the Department of Music. Please be sure to send us your news so we can pass it along to our readers.

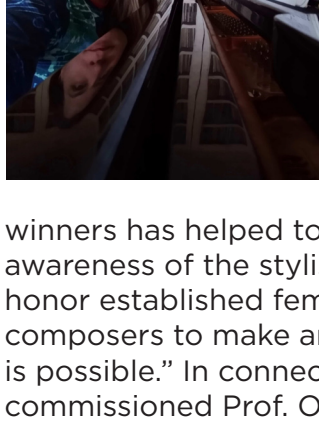
Composers' Symposium 2021 Goes Virtual

The annual John Donald Robb Composers' Symposium, "House Music," was streamed May 1-4 on the [Robb Trust YouTube channel](#). The virtual event featured recordings of new music by UNM composition students, local and international composers, as well as lectures, masterclasses, interviews and panel discussions. A series of curated videos celebrated music of contemporary composers and performers specializing in new music interpretation. Since 1972, the internationally renowned symposium has brought composers and musicians from around the world to UNM for a series of public concerts and unique learning opportunities for UNM students. The event's concerts included performances by UNM Department of Music faculty [Matt Forte](#), [Patrice Repar](#), [Jamie Flora](#), [Kristin Ditlow](#), [Olga Perez Flora](#), [Ben Silva](#), [Michael Walker](#), [Kim Fredenburgh](#) and [Kevin Vigneau](#) and many other local, national and international performers. Egbert Hiller from Deutschlandfunk wrote about the Symposium in an article for *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* (New Journal for Music) titled ["An Outstanding Place to Make Art: New Music in the U.S. state of New Mexico."](#)

Faculty Perform All-Bach Program

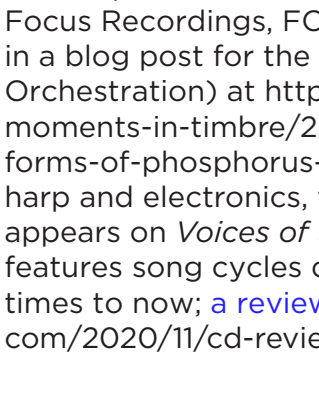
UNM Music faculty members collaborated with guest artists for an all-Bach concert program for the Arizona Bach Festival held Sunday, March 7. [Dr. Michael Hix](#), baritone, and [Dr. Maxine Thévenot](#), organ, performed with violinist Stephen Redfield and soprano Ingela Onstad in a virtual concert that was recorded at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John in Albuquerque on February 6. The program included arias and duets, a violin sonata (BWV 1021) and an organ solo work (BWV 572). Dr. Hix is currently Associate Professor of Voice at UNM and serves as Associate Chair of the Department of Music and Coordinator of Vocal Studies. Dr. Thévenot is organist at the Cathedral of St. John and teaches organ at UNM, where she also directs the women's choral ensemble Las Cantantes. Dr. Redfield has served as Concertmaster of the Arizona Bach Festival since its inception, is also concertmaster of the Santa Fe Pro Musica, and has been Associate Professor of Violin at the University of Southern Mississippi School of Music since 1996. [Ms. Onstad](#) completed her undergraduate degree at McGill University and earned a Master of Music degree in vocal performance at UNM. She has enjoyed an international career in opera, concert work and contemporary music and in addition is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) who frequently gives presentations on mental health and performance.

Faculty & Staff Notes



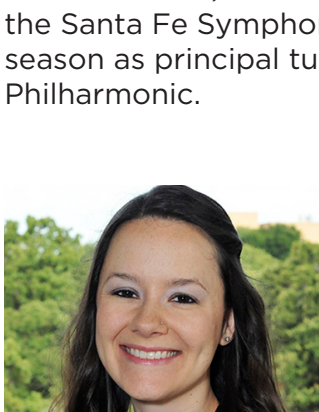
A newly-released CD on the New Focus Recordings label features compositions by [Dr. Peter Gilbert](#), Associate Professor of Theory and Composition. The album is titled *Burned into the Orange* and features recordings by a number of performers, including the Iridium Quartet (with [Eric Lau](#), Professor of Saxophone), [Richard White](#) (Associate Professor of Tuba), the Arditti Quartet, Camilla Hoitenga, Magdalena Meitzner, Jeremias Schwarzer, Michael Veit and Emanuele Arciuli.

More information can be found at: <https://www.newfocusrecordings.com/catalogue/peter-gilbert-burned-into-the-orange/>



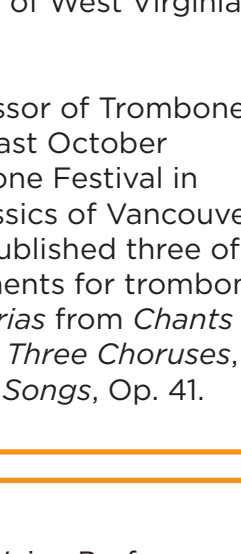
[Karola Obermueller](#), Associate Professor of Theory and Composition, was recently awarded the Heidelberg Künstlerinnenpreis (Heidelberg Prize for Female Artists). This unique prize was founded in 1987 by the singer Roswitha Sperber together with the state government to honor the work of contemporary female composers. Musicologist Ludwig Finscher described the prize as "one of the most important cultural prizes in the country....The clever selection of the winners has helped to open boundaries, set quality standards, raise awareness of the stylistic diversity of contemporary composing, honor established female composers and encourage young female composers to make amends for injustices suffered, as far as that is possible." In connection with the prize, the Heidelberg Theater commissioned Prof. Obermueller to write a cello concerto for Julian Steckel and the Heidelberg orchestra. The concerto was premiered and live-streamed in February, and was also broadcast on May 2 on Deutschlandfunk, ["Konzertdokument der Woche:"](#) https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/heidelberg-kuentstlerinnenpreis-2021-karola-obermuellers.1988.de.html?dram:article_id=492483

In October of 2021, Theater Heidelberg will premiere a new opera by Dr. Obermueller. She also reports two CDs that include her compositions: *different forms of phosphorus* for cor anglais is featured on Jacqueline Leclair's album *Music for English Horn Alone* (New Focus Recordings, FCR272); Lindsey Reymore describes the work in a blog post for the [ACTOR project](#) (Analysis, Creation + Teaching of Orchestration) at <https://www.actorproject.org/tor/amazing-moments-in-timbre/2020/11/9/music-for-english-horn-alone-different-forms-of-phosphorus-karola-obermueller-PERSEVERE> for soprano, harp and electronics, with Anne Harley and Barbara Pöschl-Edrich, appears on *Voices of the Pearl, Vol. 3*. This album is one of a series that features song cycles dedicated to the voices of women from ancient times to now; [a review can be found at:](#) <https://www.sequenza21.com/2020/11/cd-review-voices-of-the-pearl-vol-3/>



[Dr. Richard White](#), Associate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium, reports the publication of his book *I'm Possible: A Story of Survival, a Tuba, and the Small Miracle of a Big Dream* (Flatiron Books, a division of Macmillan Publishers). In it he relates his struggles growing up in Baltimore without a home and trying to look after his mother, who struggled with alcoholism. He was taken in by his adoptive grandparents, and discovered a passion for music after joining the band. He was accepted into the prestigious Baltimore School for the

Arts and graduated with honors, even while dealing with racial and socioeconomic disparities as one of the few black students there. He then went on to earn a bachelor's degree at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, and did graduate studies at Indiana University, where he became the first African American to earn a doctorate in tuba performance. Dr. White was principal tubist of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra from 2004 until its untimely demise in 2011, and is now principal tubist of the Santa Fe Symphony and is in his tenth season as principal tubist of the New Mexico Philharmonic.



[Dr. Olivia Tucker](#), Assistant Professor of Music Education, gave a presentation at the NAFME National Convention in March. Her topic was her dissertation research titled *"Everybody is Good Enough: Band Teacher Agency in a Highly Competitive Environment."* Dr. Tucker also led a team of scholars in a colloquium presentation entitled "Expanding the Boundaries of Music Teacher Identity Research" with Dr. Sean Powell of the University of North Texas and Dr. Jason Gossett of West Virginia University.



[Dr. Karl Hinterbichler](#), Professor of Trombone, was a virtual clinician this past October for the International Trombone Festival in Poznan, Poland. Cherry Classics of Vancouver, Canada, has also recently published three of Dr. Hinterbichler's arrangements for trombone quartet: Isaac Albeniz' *Asturias* from *Chants d'Espagne*, Richard Strauss' *Three Choruses*, and Johannes Brahms' *Five Songs*, Op. 41.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

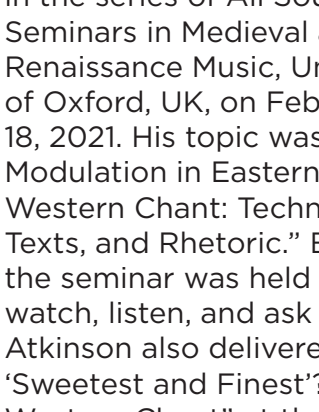
[Darci Balkcom](#), who earned a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance (2012) and now is pursuing a master's degree at UNM, has ten years of experience working in the Alexander Technique. Over the past several years, she has researched how best to apply Alexander Technique to expression/acting while singing, and she has worked with many singers on cultivating this skill. She is researching how emotions manifest and release physically and how to utilize that psychophysical relationship in performance. During her first year of graduate study, Darci was able to apply what she had learned with her Alexander Technique students to her own performance, thanks to the encouragement of UNM voice and opera faculty. Her article



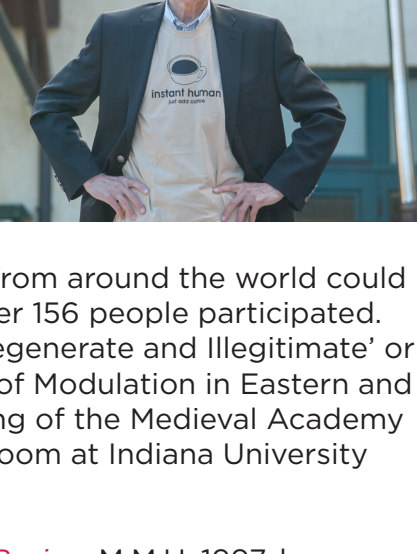
["Authentic Expression using the Alexander Technique"](#) appears in the May/June 2021 edition of *VoicePrints*, a peer-reviewed journal published by the New York Singing Teachers' Association: <https://nyst.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/NYSTA-May-June-2021.pdf>

ALUMNI UPDATES

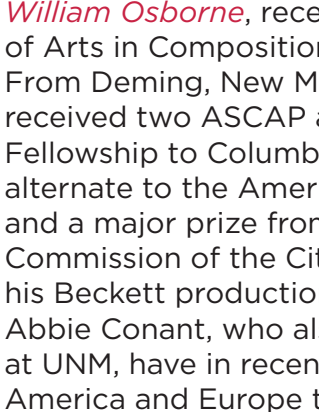
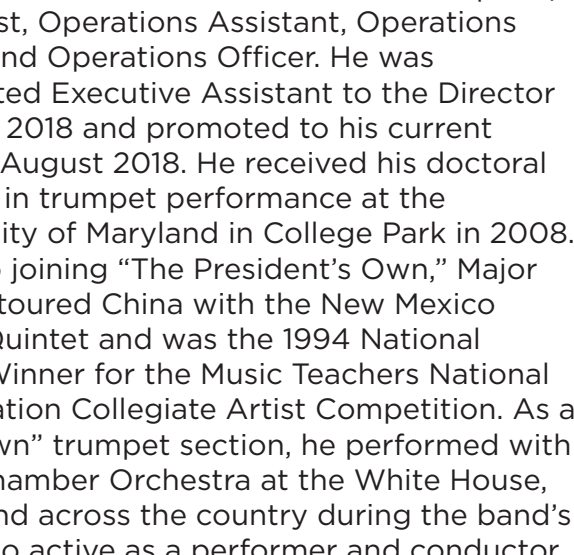
[John Stringer](#), Master of Music in Performance (1997), is currently performing as a trombonist in the Xalapa Symphony Orchestra, Mexico's oldest full-time symphony orchestra. He is also Professor of Trombone at the University of Veracruz. His daughter Carol is currently completing her senior year as a Bachelor of Arts in Music student, with viola as her principal instrument, and is writing a senior thesis as part of the Honors program.



[Dr. Bryan Depoy](#), Master of Music in Performance (1993) and former member of the New Mexico Brass Quintet, is currently serving at Lake Erie College as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness.



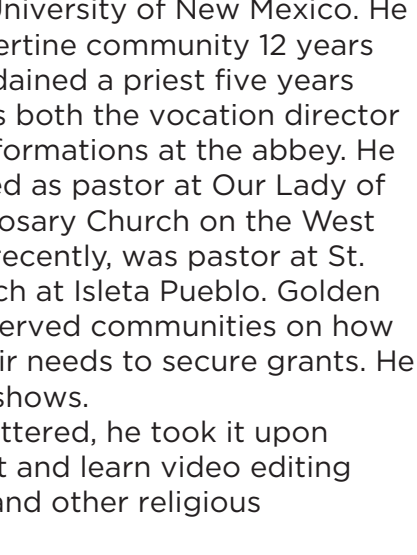
[Charles M. Atkinson](#), B.F.A. 1963, Professor emeritus, Musicology, The Ohio State University, held a seminar in the series of All Souls Seminars in Medieval and Renaissance Music, University of Oxford, UK, on February 18, 2021. His topic was "On Modulation in Eastern and Western Chant: Techniques, Texts, and Rhetoric." Because the seminar was held via Zoom, scholars from around the world could watch, listen, and ask questions. Altogether 156 people participated. Atkinson also delivered a paper titled "'Degenerate and Illegitimate' or 'Sweetest and Finest'?" On the Aesthetics of Modulation in Eastern and Western Chant" at the 96th annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, which was held virtually via Zoom at Indiana University 15-17 April 2021.



[Major Douglas R. Burian](#), M.M.U. 1997, has served with "The President's Own" United States Marine Band since 1997 as a trumpeter/cornetist, Operations Assistant, Operations Chief, and Operations Officer. He was appointed Executive Assistant to the Director in June 2018 and promoted to his current rank in August 2018. He received his doctoral degree in trumpet performance at the University of Maryland in College Park in 2008. Prior to joining "The President's Own," Major Burian toured China with the New Mexico Brass Quintet and was the 1994 National Brass Winner for the Music Teachers National Association Collegiate Artist Competition. As a

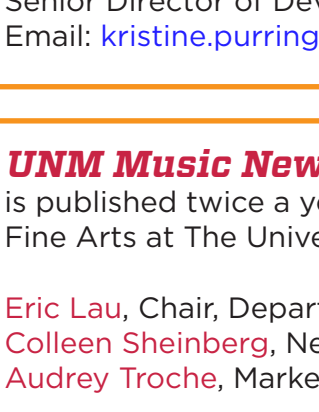
member of "The President's Own" trumpet section, he performed with the Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra at the White House, in the Washington, D.C., area and across the country during the band's annual concert tour. He was also active as a performer and conductor for the Marine Chamber Ensembles recital series.

[William Osborne](#), received his Bachelor of Arts in Composition from UNM. From Deming, New Mexico, he has received two ASCAP awards, a Doctoral Fellowship to Columbia University, alternate to the American Rome Prize, and a major prize from the Theater Commission of the City of Munich for his Beckett productions. He and his wife Abbie Conant, who also studied music at UNM, have in recent years toured in America and Europe to great acclaim with his compositions. Their European venues have included the Munich Biennale, The Stuttgarter Tage für Neue Musik, The Hamburg State Opera, The Bavarian State Opera, The Freiburg Theater Festival, The State Theater of Kassel, Frankfurt's Theater am Turm, Munich's Gasteig Cultural Center, and Nuovo Forme Sonare in Rome. They have performed and given workshops at most of America's major music schools including The Juilliard School, The New England Conservatory, Yale University, The Eastman School of Music, The Peabody Conservatory, Indiana University, The San Francisco Conservatory, Cal Arts, the University of California at Berkeley, Ithaca College, and the University of Northern Texas. He also has written numerous scholarly articles about women in music, music sociology and philosophical/theoretical concepts. In 1998, he was given a Special Recognition Award by the International Alliance for Women in Music for his services to women in music.



IN MEMORIAM

An Albuquerque native, [Rev. Graham Golden](#), passed away Friday, May 21, 2021 after a tragic car accident. Golden graduated from St. Pius X High School and double majored in music education and Spanish at the University of New Mexico. He joined the Norbertine community 12 years ago and was ordained a priest five years ago. Golden was both the vocation director and director of formations at the abbey. He previously served as pastor at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church on the West Side and, most recently, was pastor at St. Augustine Church at Isleta Pueblo. Golden advised under-served communities on how to articulate their needs to secure grants. He held annual art shows.



When the pandemic hit and churches shuttered, he took it upon himself to get funding, camera equipment and learn video editing to produce short videos for Lent, Easter and other religious holidays. Golden will be deeply missed.

Do you have news to share?

Music Alums, inquiring minds want to know what you've been doing! Send your news to:
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(or e-mail: colleens@unm.edu)
Please send your photos in jpg format or hard copies. Photos will be used on a space-available basis.

Please send address updates to Kristine Purrington, Senior Director of Development, College of Fine Arts
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