



**Arthur Houle, Founder & Artistic Director**  
**Evelyn Billberg, Program Director**  
**Luke Rackers, Executive Director, Abundant Silence**  
www.pianofestival.org

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**Judges & Artistic Director Program**

**Wash Park Center for Music and Arts**  
**400 S Williams St., Denver, CO**

**Friday, June 9, 2017**  
**7:00 P.M.**

*Suggested donation: \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors & \$5 for students*

From *Jazz Standards Arranged for Solo Piano* by John Salmon:

Ain't Misbehavin'	Thomas "Fats" Waller/Harry Brooks (1904-1943) (1895-1970)
All of Me	Gerald Marks/Seymour Simons (1900-1997) (1896-1949)
I'm in the Mood for Love	Jimmy McHugh (1894-1969)
Take Five	Paul Desmond (1924-1977)
Prelude in F Major (from <i>Add On Bach</i> )	John Salmon (b. 1954)

**John Salmon, piano**

Invention No. 8, BWV 779, with continuo addition (from <i>Add On Bach</i> )	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Invention No. 8, BWV 779 – "Great Bach's Afire" (from <i>Jazz Up the Inventions</i> )	
Sinfonia 11, BWV 797 – "Jazz Waltz for Ghosts" (from <i>Jazz Up the Sinfonias</i> )	
Sinfonia 15, BWV 801 – "Give Me A Second" (from <i>Jazz Up the Sinfonias</i> )	

**John Salmon, piano**  
**Kevin Olson & Arthur Houle, 2<sup>nd</sup> piano**

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Under the Stars (A Cowboy's Dream)  
(from *Cowboy Jazz II*)

Arthur Houle (b. 1955)

**Frank Restesan, violin**  
**Arthur Houle, piano**

Schroeder Meets the Pink Panther: Interplay No. 2  
(1975; solo version written 1985)

Arthur Houle

**Arthur Houle, piano**

### *Intermission*

Borodin's Bossa (from *In Recital for the Advancing Pianist*)

Kevin R. Olson (b. 1971)

Zapateado

Kevin R. Olson

Viaje al Salto Angel (Journey to Angel Falls)  
(from *Música Latina Para Dos, Bk 3*)

Wynn-Anne Rossi (b. 1956)

Volcán Santa Maria (Saint Maria Volcano)  
(from *Música Latina Para Dos, Bk 3*)

Wynn-Anne Rossi

Tango salvaje de Mendoza (Wild Tango from Mendoza)  
(from *Música Latina Para Dos, Bk 4*)

Wynn-Anne Rossi

Libertango (arr. Pablo Ziegler, b. 1944)

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

**Wynn-Anne Rossi & Kevin Olson, duo pianists**

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## **Program Notes by Houle**

(Rossi notes are from online descriptions)

*Under the Stars* is a highly lyrical and sentimental "tone poem" suggestive of long wistful nights sleeping under the stars. It is published by Abundant Silence with an optional flute or violin part.

Caution: the beautiful melodies and delicious twists of romantic harmonies in this piece can cause excessive elevation of the soul, which may require a long and sturdy lasso to bring it back to earth.

Riddle: What do you get when you cross a Houle with a Guaraldi and a Mancini? Answer: *Schroeder Meets the Pink Panther*. Vince Guaraldi (1928-1976) was most famous for composing and performing the cheerful jazz trio music for animations of the comic strip *Peanuts*. Guaraldi was still alive when I penned the first version of this homage for bass and piano and titled it *Interplay No. 2*. The whimsical revised title did not occur to me until 2007, but I think it was always stewing in the back of my mind - especially since I'm also a fan of Henri Mancini (1924-1994), composer of the *Pink Panther* theme.

My students know that I have a clinical condition known as "string envy," coveting all string instruments, including the bass. So it was inevitable that I would write *Schroeder Meets the Pink Panther*, which is conceived as a fun melodic "dialogue" between bluesy bass lines and the piano. (Its creation was, in part, spurred by a passing comment by my principal teacher, Leonard Shure: "You don't write very contrapuntally, do you?") String bass comes through even in tonight's 1985 piano solo piano version. This rescoring for solo piano was challenging, for I could not avoid writing some rather unpianistic technical passages (e.g., unwieldy parallel 6ths, quick changes of register, and hand-over-hand crosses).

**Viaje al Salto Angel (Journey to Angel Falls):** Angel Falls, in the heart of Venezuela, is the highest uninterrupted waterfall in the world. In the Pemon language, it is called Kerepakupai Vená, meaning "waterfall of the deepest place."

**Volcán Santa Maria (Saint Maria Volcano):** No trip to Guatemala is complete without a hike to the top of the volcano. The view from Santa Maria is breathtaking! When night falls, the sky is filled with the wonder of bright stars and galaxies.

**Tango salvaje de Mendoza (Wild Tango from Mendoza):** In Mendoza, Argentina, locals gather late in the evening and into the early hours of the morning to celebrate the tango. This traditional form of music and dance is known for its passionate execution.

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## Biographies

[Kevin R. Olson](#) is an active pianist, composer, and member of the piano faculty at Utah State University, where he teaches piano literature, pedagogy, and accompanying courses. In addition to his collegiate teaching responsibilities, Kevin directs the Utah State University Youth Conservatory, which provides weekly group and private piano instruction to more than 200 pre-college community students. The National Association of Schools of Music has recently recognized the Conservatory as a model for pre-college piano instruction programs. Before teaching at Utah State, he was on the faculty at Elmhurst College near Chicago and Humboldt State University in northern California. A native of Utah, Kevin began composing at age five. When he was twelve, his composition, *An American Trainride*, received the Overall First Prize at the 1983 National PTA Convention at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Since then he has been a Composer in Residence at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and has written music commissioned and performed by groups such as the American Piano Quartet, Chicago a cappella, the Rich Matteson Jazz Festival, Music Teachers National Association, and several piano teacher associations around the country. Kevin maintains a large piano studio, teaching students of a variety of ages and abilities. Many of the needs of his own piano students have inspired more than 100 books and solos published by the FJH Music Company, which he joined as a writer in 1994.

[Wynn-Anne Rossi](#) is a dynamic composer and unique music educator. Her compositions have reached audiences throughout the United States and across the oceans. She has over 100 publications, primarily for piano, which are widely distributed online and in music stores. Her repertoire also includes works for vocal and chamber groups, concert band and orchestra. Various commissions have been sponsored by Minnesota Public Radio, the National Endowment for the Arts, Music Teachers National Association and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Wynn-Anne has a specialty for bringing the art of composition to young musicians. She has been offering composition residencies in Minnesota schools since 2003, inspiring hundreds of students to write their own music. Partnerships have included the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, MacPhail Center for Music and the Cowles Center for Dance and Performing Arts. Rossi has also written two comprehensive series that encourage young pianists to compose: "Music by Me" (FJH, with Kevin Olson) and most recently, "Creative Composition Toolbox" (Alfred).

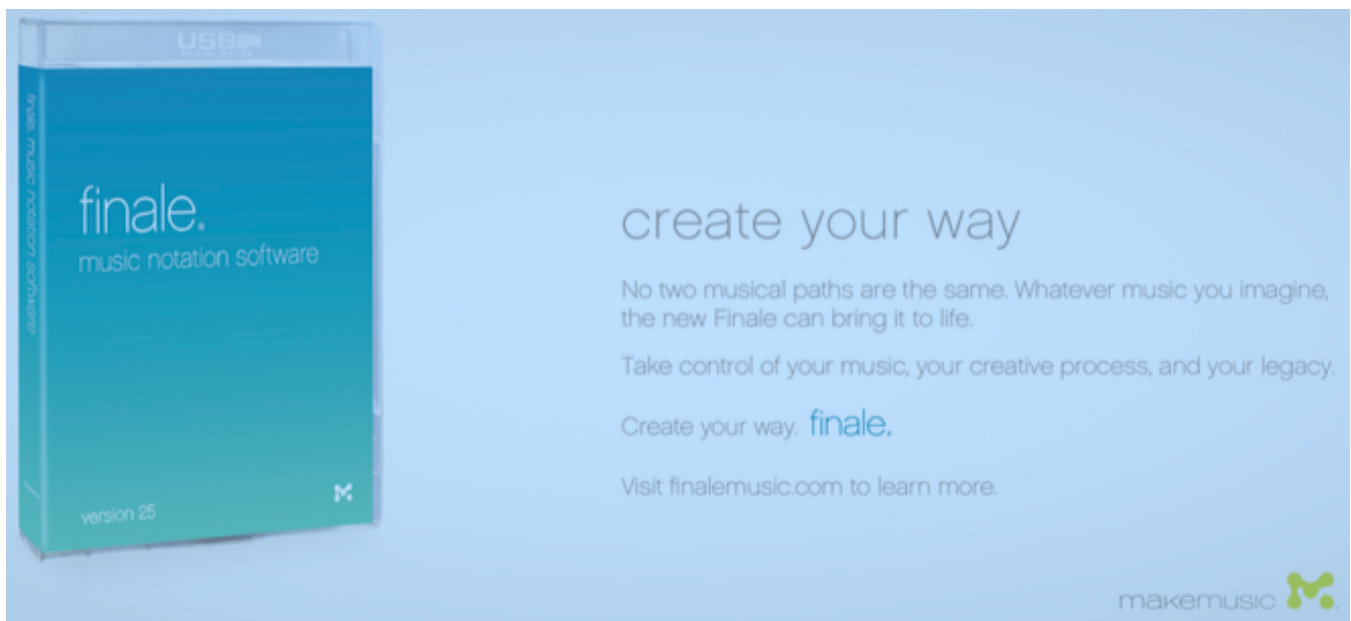
Active as a presenter, Rossi is known for her innovative lectures, workshops and master classes. Musical outreach has taken her from coast to coast and beyond the borders of the United States. Her talks often center on the importance of musical self-expression. "Discover Latin" is one of her most popular presentations, inspired by the 8-book piano series, "Música Latina."

Rossi was educated at the University of Colorado in theory and composition. Further training included choral conducting at Harvard University and jazz pedagogy through the University of Illinois. She has also studied composition under Pulitzer Prize recipient Aaron Jay Kernis.

What does Wynn-Anne do other than music? She loves to ice-skate or roller-blade, depending on the weather. She practices elementary juggling to inspire humility and often brainstorms while watching red-bellied woodpeckers at her bird feeder. Family members include her husband Greg, Alley the cat and her awesome son, Nick. For entertaining updates, visit Wynn-Anne Rossi Music on Facebook.

[John Salmon](#) has distinguished himself on four continents as both a classical and jazz pianist. He has given recitals for the Dame Myra Hess Series in Chicago, the Discovery Series in Indianapolis, the Van Cliburn Foundation in Fort Worth, and a Busoni Gala at Symphony Space in New York. His recordings are frequently broadcast on radio stations in the U.S., including WNYC in New York, WFMT in Chicago, and KUSC in Los Angeles, and on the national radio stations of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Ukraine. He is particularly noted for his recordings and editions of the music of Dave Brubeck. Salmon is Professor of Piano at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and is the only person to serve as a judge for every Festival for Creative Pianists event since it was founded in 2001.

[Arthur Houle](#) is professor of music and Director of Keyboard Studies at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction, Colorado. Dr. Houle is also founder and artistic director of the Festival for Creative Pianists. Houle holds degrees from the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, New England Conservatory and the University of Iowa. He was the only pianist to be invited to perform twice, to critical acclaim, in the 1995 International Chopin Music Festival. He has given coast-to-coast lecture/recitals and master classes at institutions such as Eastman School of Music, Dartmouth College, New England Conservatory, Longy School of Music, and for various teacher organizations. Houle also presents often for national, regional and local conferences. A critically acclaimed performer and recipient of a 2011 Music Teachers National Association Fellow Award, Houle has written for numerous periodicals. In 2008, the Hal Leonard Corporation published *Cowboy Jazz*, a collection of Houle's original compositions for students. Houle is also editor of the first definitive and scholarly revised edition of Clementi's *Sonatinas for Piano, Op. 36*, also published by Abundant Silence (2017). A private teacher since the age of thirteen, Houle taught previously at New England Conservatory, Boston Conservatory, the College of Idaho, the Gifted Music School (UT), and the Universities of Iowa, North Dakota and Texas-Austin.



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👉 Festival participants: Please don't forget to sign in 🙋 before and after this program!

## Upcoming:

- **Celebration of Students' Best Recitals & followed by the Awards Ceremony**  
Sat., June 10: 3:45 PM, 5:00 PM, & 7:00 PM same location (\$15/\$10/\$5)

**Many thanks to our donors, sponsors and volunteers.  
This festival would not be possible without you!**

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Special thanks to all of the Columbine Music Teachers for organizing and providing food for our Saturday potluck and providing other support throughout the festival...we could not do this without your support!

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