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### Faculty Recital: "...the greatest heights.", Dr. Christin Schillinger

Christin Schillinger

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"... the greatest heights."

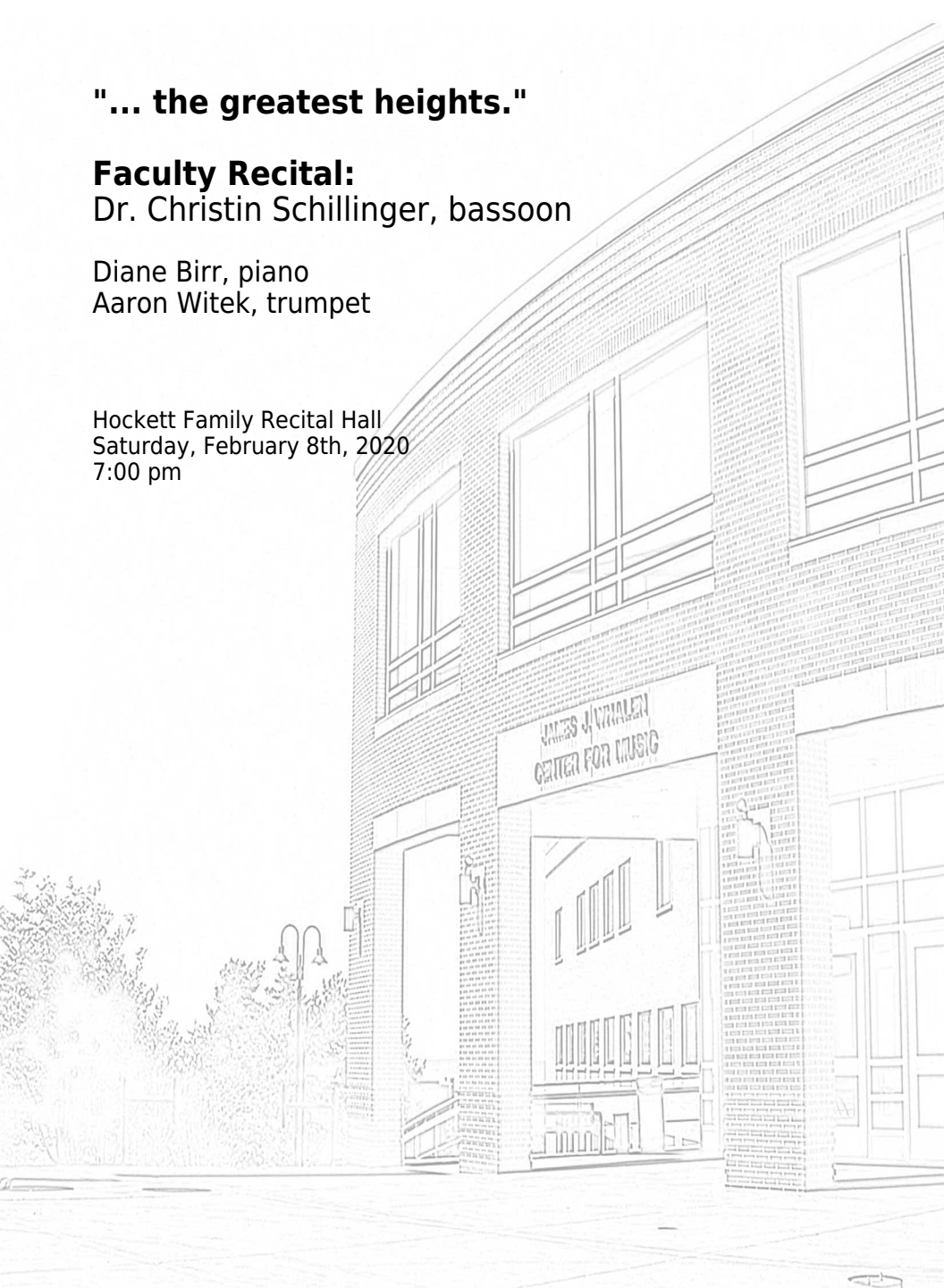
**Faculty Recital:**

Dr. Christin Schillinger, bassoon

Diane Birr, piano

Aaron Witek, trumpet

Hockett Family Recital Hall  
Saturday, February 8th, 2020  
7:00 pm



**ITHACA COLLEGE**

School of Music

# Program

Concerto for Trumpet, Bassoon, with String  
Orchestra

I. *Allegro spiritoso*

II. *Molto adagio - Allegro pesante*

III. *Vivace*

Paul Hindemith  
(1895-1963)

Concerto for Bassoon and Chamber  
Orchestra

III. *Searing, focused*

Christopher Theofanidis  
(b. 1967)

## Intermission

*Circle Music III* for bassoon and piano

Cindy McTee  
(b. 1953)

*Double Helix* for bassoon and piano

I. Prelude: Intertwine

II. Entrechat

III. Divertissement: Gentle Beauty

IV. Soar

V. Postlude (Epilogue)

Jenni Brandon  
(b. 1977)

*Susan Hawkins, artist*

## Biographies

### Christin Schillinger

Hailed as a “soloist, teacher, and force of nature” by *The Double Reed (Journal of the International Double Reed Society)*, bassoonist **Christin Schillinger** specializes in the accessibility of the avant-garde, aiming to broaden the audience for both new music and bassoon. American Record Guide refers to her playing as “full of life and inspiration.” “She plays [bassoon] with total mastery.” (Fanfare)

Schillinger works closely with living composers. Her newest solo album, *Bassoon Unbounded* (2018), highlights works from the 21st Century written in her dedication. Her prior solo albums, *Bassoon Transcended* (2013) and *Bassoon Surrounded* (2009), produced for MSR Classics by Swineshead Productions, include world-premiere recordings of new works. Collaborative composers remark on her “natural interpretation” and “perfect musical choices.”

To facilitate the demands of 21st-century compositions, Schillinger researches reed-making consistency. Her 2016 book, *Bassoon Reed Making* (Indiana University Press) details current and historic trends in this field. Schillinger’s groundbreaking research extends to guest lectures and residencies throughout the United States and Europe.

Schillinger serves as an advocate for women in the Art Music industry. She is the creator of fEMPOWER social networking platform for female bassoonists, and a founding member of *LIMITLESS Collective*: an all-female chamber ensemble re-imagining the performance paradigm as they highlight the works of women, people of color, the LGBTQ community, and emerging composers. *LIMITLESS Collective* appears regularly throughout the United States as performers, speakers, and educators.

Schillinger is currently on faculty at Ithaca College in New York. Previously, she has held positions with Miami University, the University of Nevada, and various orchestras throughout the west. Schillinger received her degrees from Northwestern, Michigan State, and Arizona State Universities under the guidance of Robert Barris, Barrick Stees, Michael Kroth, Albie Micklich, and Jeffrey Lyman.

## **Diane Birr**

**Diane Birr**, Professor of piano, has been a faculty member at Ithaca College School of Music since 1993 where she teaches courses and lessons in collaborative piano, private piano and class piano, as well as coaches both vocal and instrumental chamber music. Dr. Birr also serves as Coordinator of the M.M. – Performance in Collaborative Piano degree, a new focus to the graduate performance degree instituted in Fall 2015. Dr. Birr is frequently asked to serve as an adjudicator for various competitions & festivals in NYS, as well as invited to serve as master class clinician for solo piano and chamber music.

Dr. Birr has performed with numerous musicians in recitals and master classes throughout the world. She is frequently featured as a collaborative pianist on the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra's *Chamber Music Series*, and has also served as an official collaborative pianist for multiple conferences and competitions, including the Music Teachers National Association's (MTNA) national competitions, the International Double Reed Society Conference, the International Horn Society, the International Trombone Association's conference, and the inaugural International Brass Conference held at Bloomington, Indiana.

Diane has been an active member of MTNA for many years, having served in a variety of roles including NYSMTA President, MTNA Eastern Division Director and as a member of the MTNA National Board of Directors. She is also a member of NATS.

Dr. Birr received collaborative piano training with Brooks Smith and Gwendolyn Koldofsky at the University of Southern California (USC), and completed her doctorate in Accompanying and Chamber Music at the Eastman School of Music under the tutelage of Jean Barr.

## **Aaron Witek**

Dr. Aaron Witek joined the faculty of Ithaca College's School of Music in the fall 2018 as Assistant Professor of Trumpet. He held this same role from 2013-2018 at the University of Louisiana Monroe (ULM) where he was also a part of Black Bayou Brass.

Witek has given recitals, master classes, and clinics throughout the world. He has frequently been an adjudicator at the International Trumpet Guild Conference and National Trumpet Competition. Further, Witek was a first place winner in the Historic Division of the National Trumpet Competition, also receiving an International Trumpet Guild Scholarship.

As a noted author, Witek is published numerous times in the International Trumpet Guild Journal. His book entitled Gordon Mathie: The Treasured Legacy of a Master Teacher and Performer, published by WR Enterprises, was released at the 2014 International Trumpet Guild Conference. In May 2018, Witek released Solo Duet Training for Trumpet, his first publication with Mountain Peak Music.

Since 2001, Witek has been involved with the marching arts activity as an instructor and designer. He has been Brass Pedagogical Coordinator at the ten-time Drum Corps International World Champion Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps and Assistant Brass Caption Head at the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps.

Witek earned a Doctorate of Music in Trumpet Performance from Florida State University where he also completed his Master of Music degree in Performance. In addition, he received his Bachelor of Music in Education degree at the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. His principal teachers have included Christopher Moore, Bryan Goff, John Ellis, and Alex Jokopi.

Aaron Witek is proud to be a Yamaha Artist and a Monster Oil Performing Artist.

## **Jed Moss: In Memoriam (1962 - 2019)**

Jed Moss was a high-demand collaborative and concert pianist centered in Salt Lake City. Moss was the resident pianist for the elite Ballet West, the Utah Chamber Music Society, and the Contemporary Music Consortium. Moss collaborated as a symphonic pianist, appearing with festivals across the west including: Teton, Bear Lake, and Deer Valley.

As a collaborative chamber musician, Moss appeared with musicians from the nation's top orchestras and universities. He performed extensively throughout the United States and abroad. He was a frequent artist within the double reed community: in addition to his active collaboration with Dr. Christin Schillinger, he was a member of the Utah based double reed ensemble, Sundance Trio. He has also twice been a resident pianist for the International Double Reed Society Annual Conferences.

Moss also worked as a studio musician recording for motion picture soundtracks at L.A. East studios in Salt Lake City. He played on several Hallmark Hall of Fame made-for-TV movies as well as Merchant Ivory films. As a recording artist, Moss has collaborated with various instrumentalists as well as vocalists, frequently premiering newly commissioned works. Jed Moss's flexibility and depth of performance are a tribute to his depth of experience: he is the former keyboardist for the rock band Air Supply.

Recently Jed Moss wrote "bonding musically and philosophically with others to expose the heart, brilliance and ultimate potential of both the music and the performer." He believed that when we work "in a collective, we attain the greatest heights."

Jed Moss, born on March 20th 1962, died on June, 23rd 2019 following a recent diagnosis of adenocarcinoma. His spirit remains with all who knew him.