

MEADOW CITY ACADEMY OF MUSIC

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Novo Sonidos Students performing at Ilfeld Auditorium during Fiestas/2023.

SWING MAGIQUE UPCOMING EVENT. WATCH FOR DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED.



Swing Magique presents Jazz in the swing style, made famous in 1930's Paris, by the Gypsy virtuoso jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt. Ronaldo Baca and Mick Faucheur, guitarists; Melissa Montoya, vocalist; Micky Patton, Bassist. Meg York will join in on clarinet.

Update from Meadow City Academy of Music

There is never a dull moment in our quest to generate diverse musical programs and educational opportunities for Las Vegas (NM) and surrounding communities. Here follows a report on three interesting recent projects.

On Sunday afternoon, March 5th, Kevin Zoernig and I took to the stage at Ilfeld auditorium for a piano recital titled ***Two Pianists – 88 Keys*** with the goal of savoring the rich sonorities of a reconditioned 9-foot Steinway in a lovely concert hall setting. Although my friendship and musical association with Kevin spans over 20 years, to date, we had never combined forces for a joint recital including two of our original works.

The program evolved from our desire to present works which had special personal meaning to us. In the first half of the program, I endeavored to create a context dramatizing Zoernig's *Fantastic Garlands-Ophelia* (taken from incidental music created for Shakespeare's *Hamlet*) followed by the premier of my own piece for solo piano *Tears in Time of War*, inspired by the tragic events of the current war in the Ukraine. Dramatic lighting, projected images, and an ensemble of dancers from the *MoveWest Dance Company* heightened the effect of the music which can only be described as an extended lament.

After intermission, Zoernig played a long medley, including several personally favored songs, cleverly connected by unusual improvisational interludes. Zoernig revealed that he had never created an extended medley lasting over 40 minutes. Please see the attached program and photo for more details.

On Sunday, April 23, the First United Presbyterian Church served as the chosen venue for a **Music Recital**, featuring pianists and vocalists who study with Kevin Zoernig, Linda King and Ronald Maltais. We strived to create a relaxed atmosphere where students (17 in all!) could gain performance experience. The audience of family members friends and students had to be impressed by the wide age-range and talent on display. The program also included a few original works by budding young composers! Truly, Las Vegas is blessed with a bounty of talent for its size. Please see the attached program.

I am pleased to announce that the summer music camp for Las Vegas youth, now in its second year, is again being conducted by Quintin Leger at West Las Vegas High School. The project, titled ***Novo Sonidos(New Sounds) Orchestra*** is heading into its final week of a 6-week term. This project was successfully launched in the summer of 2022, primarily under the sponsorship of Meadow City Academy of Music. But now it is gratifying to see that San Miguel County has become the primary sponsor, with ad-

ditional funding provided by Meadow City Academy of Music and the Gillingham Musicians Fund. New Mexico Highlands University is also providing access to recording facilities for creative student projects. Student enrollment dramatically increased this year, rising from 7 to 18! Many participants appeared in a performance during the recent Las Vegas Fiestas pageant at Ilfeld Auditorium. According to Quintin Leger, the audience was truly stunned, leading to a heartfelt ovation. The final *Novo Sonidos* performance is scheduled for Thursday, July 20th, at 6:00 pm at the United Methodist Church (corner of National Ave. and 8th). Admission is free! Please see the attached poster and photos.

Two outstanding concert events are in the planning stages for fall 2023 and one for early next year. *Swing Magique*, a quartet from Albuquerque, will present jazz in the swing style made famous in 1930's Paris, by gypsy guitar virtuoso Django Reinhardt. A second concert will feature Las Vegas resident and clarinetist Meg York and pianist Ronald Maltais. Meg has recently become a faculty member of Meadow City Academy of Music. Her photo and biography are attached.

Equally exciting, I should also mention that we are hoping to bring *The Delbert Anderson Quartet* to Las Vegas in 2024. Delbert is a Native-American jazz trumpet player and New Mexico resident who was recently featured in the New York Times. The Times says "The trumpeter's ensemble takes inspiration from traditional Navajo songs. Its work has stirred up global interest, as well as conversations about the responsibilities of Indigenous artists."

In closing, I want to convey my special appreciation and thanks to our individual donors who help make our Academy events possible. Any arts organization needs to secure financial support from many sources. We value your contributions!



Sincerely,
Ronald Maltais
Artistic Director
Meadow City Academy of Music

MUSICAL NOTES

New Faculty Member/Instructor and Grant Writer



Meg York

New Faculty Member/Instructor
and Grant Writer

pher Shahrzad Khorsandi for David Taylor Zikr Dance. Tarjama also loves collaborating with Sirena Studios in Albuquerque with Clan Tynker musicians for Belly Dance Haflas. Meg's music is used by 5Rhythms in New York and she is represented by 411 Music, Los Angeles, CA as an ASCAP recording artist for Warner Brothers films.

Currently Meg is working on Rhythm of Tabla recordings with two master percussionists: Nabin Shrestha, Nepalese Hindustani Tabla player and Faisal Zedan, Syrian Derbekki player. She solos with the Albuquerque based Django Reinhart style Swing Magique and plays for Serina Belly Dance Studio with Sam and Santiago Tynker. Mark your calendars for Albuquerque Balkan Fest the weekend before Thanksgiving and a multicultural offering for Dia De Los Muertos right here in Meadow City!

Meg will be hosting a Tarjama Community Band in Las Vegas starting in the Fall of 2023. Stay tuned for more information on her website www.megyork.com.

Welcome to Meadow City Academy of Music, Meg.

Meg York grew up in Los Lunas, New Mexico, and is delighted to return to the Land of Enchantment after 25 years! Meg is a composer, educator and performer who lives part time in Turkey and India to inform her soaring solos, dramatic tone, and global grooves. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Clarinet and Flamenco performance from UNM. Meg also does outreach for the non-profit Musical Ambassadors of Peace.

Meg created the Tarjama Ensemble to celebrate and elevate refugee and immigrant artists and their allies. Tarjama, which means 'Translation', plays authentic ethnic community dance music for parties, weddings, celebrations of life, and movement workshops. Tarjama played for Yo Yo Ma's tour in Aurora, Colorado, Albuquerque Folk Fest, and Boulder Balkan Bash.

Other highlights include acting in the Denver Center for the Performing Arts Yiddish play *Indecent*, and soloing with Hal Aqua's Lost Tribe, Gora Gora Orkestar, and Kantorei Chorus. Meg loves the Persian dance score *Atash* she created with Colorado Persian classical musicians and Bay Area choreogra-



MoveWest Dance Ensemble performing on March 5, 2023 in *Tears in Time of War* by Ronald Maltais

About the Artists

Kevin Zoernig, composer, keyboardist, and music educator was initially classically trained. He has dedicated his life to exploring diverse traditions including jazz, blues, rock, funk, and electronica. Zoernig worked as a sideman or leader on dozens of recording projects including Jim Wilson's Sacred Ground compilation which won a Grammy in 2006. In demand as a performer, he toured with Eddie Harris, Nat Adderley, Ferron, and Boris McCutcheon among many others. Zoernig founded the Contemporary Music Program at the College of Santa Fe in 1992 and continues to cultivate young musicians through his work at New Mexico Highlands University and the United World College in Montezuma, NM. Regarding composition, he studied with George Russell, Bill Dixon, and Lou Calabro among others, and has written big band arrangements, piano instrumentals, songs, and music for theatre and dance productions as well as original music at two Meow Wolf locations. His recordings as a leader defy categorization but include a rich duo collaboration with renowned bassist David Friesen from 1995. Zoernig and Friesen reunited in April, 2022 at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, NM as part of their New Mexico tour.

Ronald Maltais, pianist, composer, and singer, served as the director of music at the United World College USA from 2001 to 2016. Former academic positions include Simmons College (visiting professor), Boston University (teaching fellow), Lexington Public Schools (composer-in-residence) and Florida Keys Community College (visiting professor). Originally from Southern New Hampshire, his intense studies with Maurice Hoffman led him to pursue BM and DMA degrees taken at New England Conservatory (piano performance) and Boston University (music composition). Maltais also pursued vocal training and he has devoted significant time to choral directing and artistic direction. His principal teachers include Jung Ja Kim, Katja Andy, Anthony di Bonaventura, David Krauser, Charles Fussel and Lukas Foss. The premiere of his *Meditation for Viola and Strings* was conducted by Foss in 1998. Maltais's travels have led to engagements as a musician and lecturer in several US states and in India, Turkey, South Africa and Peru. His work *Dark Woods* was composed for Jack Glatzer and performed in 2016 at the Light Spectrum concert (Dwan Light Sanctuary) on the United World College campus. Maltais is presently composing a string quartet (commission) and a work for solo alto flute titled *Hour of the Wolf* for Mary Kay Robinson. He is the founder and director of Meadow City Academy of Music in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

MoveWest Dance Ensemble: Based in Santa Fe, MoveWest is a collaborative organization bringing together dancers, choreographers, artists, movement therapists and educators who believe in the power of dance to touch imagination, evoke possibility, and transform lives. The ensemble dancers are committed to a somatic approach to dance allowing for a deeper connection between body, mind, heart, and place. When approached by Ronald Maltais they enthusiastically agreed to take on the challenge of diving deeply into the literary ideas explored in *Tears in Time of War*, as well as researching and acquainting themselves with the work Ukrainian dancers are producing concurrently in Kyiv. The dancers have chosen to improvise in today's concert, and as an added frisson, to not hear the music until the actual performance.

Meadow City Academy of Music was founded by Artistic Director Ronald Maltais in the spring of 2017, with a mission to provide excellent musical/dance training and performances for the Las Vegas, New Mexico community. The Academy seeks to present professional New Mexico musicians and dancers in performance venues throughout the city. As we proceed into our seventh season, we are proud to announce that the Academy has featured over 95 performance artists primarily from New Mexico. Due to the generosity of our donors, we are committed to awarding music scholarships for talented Las Vegas youth.

Fantastic Garlands – Ophelia

Fantastic Garlands - Ophelia is taken from Zoernig's incidental music score for a production of Shakespeare's Hamlet. Ophelia is a daughter, sister, lover and a member of the royal court's entourage. In each of those roles she is either exploited or abused or both, and under that irresistible pressure, she descends into mental illness. She loses her reason and appears at court babbling and behaving incoherently. The next thing the audience hears about Ophelia is that she has drowned herself. Maltais describes Zoernig's *Fantastic Garlands - Ophelia* as "the spirit of Ophelia suspended under water."

Tears in Time of War

Ronald Maltais composed *Tears in Time of War* over the past several months while contemplating the difficult struggles and hardship endured by the Ukrainians during the ongoing conflict with Putin's Russian forces. It can only be described as an intensely emotional lament for the senseless killing of Ukrainian civilians as a result of Russian bombs and missiles, and the brutal treatment and murders of innocent victims in the ongoing conflicts. There is a recurring chorale, slow and prayer-like, which evokes the enduring voices of a Ukrainian choir. This work was composed in memory of Maltais's former teacher Lukas Foss.

Music Recital

Sunday, April 23, 2023
2:00 pm

First United Presbyterian Church
Las Vegas, New Mexico

Students of Kevin Zoernig

Donaciano Vigil

A Change is Gonna Come
 Musette in D

Sam Cooke
 J.S. Bach

Doug Hughs

Minuet in G
 Chorale: Gieb Dich Zufrieden

J.S. Bach
 J.S. Bach

Noah Probst

Song of Healing
 Song of Storms

Koji Kondo
 Koji Kondo

Dameon Gillock

Nibbles' Song

Dameon Gillock

Marietta O'Hara

Baby Elephant Walk
 Funk in Eb Dorian (Duet with Kevin)

Henry Mancini
 Improvisation

Oscar O'Hara

Heart and Soul (Duet with Kevin)

Carmichael/Loesser

Rowan Gillock

Hollow Knight - Main Theme
 Blues in F (Duet with Kevin Zoernig)

Christopher Larkin
 Improvisation

Students of Ronald Maltais

Afsana Alexander

Galway Piper
 Reflection (from *Melan*)

Irish traditional
 Matthew Wilder

Emma Méndez Gray

Malagueña

Spanish traditional

Lone Star Waltz (continued on page 2)	William Palmer
Payton Martinez Alouette Roman Holiday	French traditional arranged by William Palmer
Eva Méndez Gray Scarborough Fair Gentle Raindrops Horse-Drawn Carriage (Duet with Ron)	Traditional English Ballad Eva Méndez Gray Randall Faber
Lacee Bassett Sarasponda Hunting Song	Spanish traditional arranged by William Palmer
Kathleen Dudley Vaga luna che inargentati (Beautiful Moon) Ye Banks an' Braes O' Bonnie Doon	Vincenzo Bellini Robert Burns
Hannah Katz Prelude in E Major	J.S. Bach
Susan Sanocki Make Believe (<i>Showboat</i>) Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man (<i>Showboat</i>)	Jerome Kern Jerome Kern
Aaron Garcia Pavanne pour une infante défunte	Maurice Ravel
Student of Linda King	
Theo Williamson Sonatine: 3 rd Movement: "Anime"	Maurice Ravel

**Presented by Meadow City Academy of Music
Ronald Maltais, Artistic Director**

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Meadow City
Academy of Music



100% San Miguel
Initiative



Novo Sonidos ORCHESTRA

A **music camp** to explore the unknown,
make friends, and have fun!



When: June 12 – July 20
Monday – Thursday
10 am – 2 pm

Where: West Las Vegas High School
Music Department

REQUIREMENTS:

- 12 – 17 age
- 1-year musical experience
- Instrument*
- Curiosity
- Great attitude

CONTACT:

Quintin Leger
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SCAN CODE TO SIGN UP!



*In some cases an instrument will be provided.



Novo Sonidos students in recording session at NMHU.

