

Artist Series

Nyaho Garcia Duo

Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 3pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University
School of Arts and Communication / Department of Music presents

Artist Series

Nyaho Garcia Duo

featuring

William Chapman Nyaho and Susanna Garcia, *Duo-Pianists*

Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 3pm

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Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.

Please disable the audible signal on all watches, pagers and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.
Use of cameras, recording equipment and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

PROGRAM

***Porgy and Bess Fantasy for Two Pianos*..... George Gershwin (1898-1937)**
arranged for two pianos by Percy Grainger

Introduction

My Man's Gone Now

It Ain't Necessarily So

Clara, Don't You Be Down-Hearted

Strawberry Call

Summertime

Oh, I Can't Sit Down

Bess, You Is My Woman Now

Oh, I Got Plenty O' Nuttin'

Oh Laud, I'm On My Way

***Billy the Kid*..... Aaron Copland (1900-1990)**
arranged for two pianos by the composer

I. The Open Prairie

II. In a Frontier Town

Cowboys with Lassos

Mexican Dance and Finale

III. Billy and his Sweetheart

IV. Celebration after Billy's Capture

V. Billy's Demise

VI. The Open Prairie Again

INTERMISSION

Symphonic Dances from <i>West Side Story</i>	Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)
<i>Prologue (Allegro moderato)</i>	arranged for two pianos by John Musto
<i>Somewhere (Adagio)</i>	
<i>Scherzo (Vivace e leggiero)</i>	
<i>Mambo (Meno presto)</i>	
<i>Cha-cha (Andantino con grazia)</i>	
<i>Meeting Scene (Meno mosso)</i>	
<i>Cool Fugue (Allegretto)</i>	
<i>Rumble (Molto allegro)</i>	
<i>Finale (Adagio)</i>	

About the Performers

Susanna Garcia and **William Chapman Nyaho** met during doctoral studies at the University of Texas at Austin during the 1980s. Although they were friends, their musical collaboration did not begin until both began teaching at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in 1990. Their formation as a duo represented not only their respect for each other's musicianship but their sharing of a similar musical philosophy – bringing the excitement and joy of music for two pianos to a wider audience. They have gained recognition throughout the United States, Europe and Africa with the blending of standard repertoire and newly composed works. Several new works have been written especially for them. Concert reviews of the duo have described their flawless ensemble as “one head, one heart, but four hands” and stated, “Garcia and Nyaho played with a sensitivity to the music that is rarely heard by a single pianist, let alone two working together.”

The duo's recording on the Centaur label of the complete two-piano works of American composer Aaron Copland received critical acclaim. The music is a tribute to the diverse cultures of the Americas – from plaintive cowboy tunes, exuberant Mexican folk dances, driving Cuban rhythms, to the famous Shaker melody *The Gift To Be Simple*. Reviews called this recording “the standard against which any future performances of these dances will be measured.” This recording has been featured on the British Broadcast Corporation Radio Network program “Desert Island Discs,” a program recommending recordings one would wish to have if shipwrecked on a desert island.

In addition to her career as duo pianist, **Susanna Garcia**, a South Texas native, has performed both solo and chamber recitals throughout the United States, Mexico, Canada, Ghana, the Caribbean and Europe, and has been featured on radio and television. Under the auspices of the Mexican government's cultural enrichment program, she toured the country giving recitals and workshops. Critics praise her "impressive technical skills and musical communication in performance" and her "remarkable critical insights into music." Her playing has been called "brilliant." The Thomasville Times (NC) reported, “Garcia dazzled the audience with her technique.” Dr. Garcia is also a clinician, and has presented workshops, papers and masterclasses on a variety of topics for the International Society for Music Education, College Music Society, Music Teachers National Association, National Association for Humanities Education, National Group Piano/Piano Pedagogy Forum, Louisiana Music Teachers Association and a host of state music teacher groups.

Dr. Garcia holds the Masters and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Texas at Austin and the Bachelor of Music from Texas A&M at Corpus Christi, Texas. She is Professor of Music at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where she has taught since 1990. Dr. Garcia holds the Louisiana Board of Regents/Ruth Stodghill Girard Endowed Professorship in Music and in 2001 was named a University of Louisiana Distinguished Professor. In 2012, she was honored as a Foundation Fellow by the Music Teachers National Association, and in 2013 received the Outstanding Teacher Award from the Louisiana Music Teachers Association. In 2015, she was again recognized by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, receiving the "Research Excellence Award" for the College of the Arts. Garcia is the co-developer of eNovativePiano: Multimedia Resources for Developing Musicianship Skills, published online at eNovativePiano.com.

William Chapman Nyaho, a Ghanaian American holds degrees from Oxford University, the Eastman School of Music, and the University of Texas at Austin. He also studied at the Conservatoire de Musique de Genève, Switzerland. Following four years as a North Carolina Visiting Artist, Chapman Nyaho taught at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for ten years. As Associate Professor of Music, he was the recipient of the Distinguished Professor Award and the Acadiana Arts Council Distinguished Artist Award. He also held the Heymann Endowed Professorship. Chapman Nyaho's appointments have included Visiting Professor of Piano at Colby College, Artist-in-Residence at Willamette University and summer faculty of Interlochen Center for the Arts. He currently runs a private piano studio in Seattle and serves on the piano faculty at Pacific Lutheran University.

Chapman Nyaho's solo performances have taken him to Europe, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and North America. He has performed as soloist with various orchestras across the United States and has been featured on radio and television broadcasts in Ghana, Switzerland, and on Performance Today on NPR. As clinician, Chapman Nyaho gives lecture-recitals and workshops advocating music by composers of African heritage. He has compiled and edited a five-volume graded anthology *Piano Music of Africa and the African Diaspora*, published by Oxford University Press. His soon to be released new CD will comprise recordings of piano music from volumes 1 & 2 of his anthology.

Chapman Nyaho's solo recordings include critically acclaimed *SENKU: Piano Music by Composers of African Descent*, and *ASA: Piano Music by Composers of African Descent*, released on the MSR Classics Label. *SENKU* was named one of the "Best of the Year" by the Cleveland Plain Dealer, calling it "altogether enthralling...this music deserves a regular place on concert programs." *Gramophone Magazine* said, "Nyaho's gripping performances kept my ears glued to this disc...Let's hope the pianist continues to explore – and record – more such commanding repertoire." Dr. Maya Angelou wrote that it holds "moments of discovery so delicious that the listeners will be made to laugh out loud and to compliment not just Dr. Chapman Nyaho, but themselves at their good fortune in finding these composers and this pianist."



This is a participating concert of *Leonard Bernstein at 100*, the world-wide celebration of the 100th birthday of Leonard Bernstein, the composer, conductor, educator, musician, cultural ambassador, and humanitarian, officially beginning on August 25, 2017, Bernstein's 99th birthday, and continuing through his 100th year until August 25, 2019.

 **Leonard
Bernstein**
at 100

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