

Thank you for your interest in string studies at UCCS. Our Music Program offers opportunities for rigorous scholarship, performance, and innovative interdisciplinary immersions across the arts. Moreover, this entrepreneurial music program enables students to create unique new connections with other areas across sciences, computers and technology, ethnic and gender studies, arts therapy, acoustic ecology, business practices, and many more. We take advantage of the interconnected academic culture at UCCS and enable opportunities for students to create new partnerships with disciplines of all kinds.

We currently offer private instruction in violin/viola, cello, bass and guitar in a variety of styles. As part of the private lessons, students also take the First Fridays Seminar, which serves both as a general music program meeting as well as a forum for the presentation of research and performances by visitors, faculty and students. Students register for lessons through extended studies at:

<http://www.uccs.edu/lases/private-music-lessons.html>

Related course offerings include:

MUS 1600/2600/3600/4600 Applied Lessons/First Fridays Seminar
MUS 2210 Mountain Lion Athletics/Concert Band
MUS 2250 Jazz and Improvisation Ensemble
MUS 2300 Electronic/ Acoustic Ensemble
MUS 2400 Chamber Music Ensemble
MUS 4300 Creative Music Ensemble

Meet our Faculty

Colin McAllister- guitar (classical and jazz), head of strings

Colin McAllister pursues a creative life as a guitarist, conductor and historian. He engages deeply with cross-disciplinary ideas in the humanities, particularly the intersection between music and history, classics and religion. A dedicated performer of contemporary repertoire, he has given over 100 first performances, including the U.S. premiere of works by leading European composers Chaya Czernowin, Franco Donatoni, Brian Ferneyhough, Beat Furrer, Vinko Globokar, Helmut Lachenmann and Rolf Riehm.

Colin has performed throughout North America and Europe including the Monday Evening Concerts, New Music Miami, San Francisco sfSound, Darmstadt International Music Festival, Festival Hispanoamericano de Guitarra, Dallas Festival of Modern Music, Foro Internacional de Música Nueva Manuel Enríquez in Mexico City, PRISMS New Music, Seattle Transport Jazz, Breda Jazz Festival and the Centro Mexicano para la Música y las Artes Sonoras (CMMAS). As a guest artist, he has appeared with the San Diego Opera, San Diego Symphony, Colorado Symphony and the La Jolla Symphony. He is the guitarist and conductor for the ensemble NOISE, and a co-founder of the SoundON Festival of Modern Music. Colin has recorded for the Innova, Tzadik, Albany, Naxos, Old King Cole, Vienna Modern Masters and Carrier record labels and has two publications with Productions d'OZ: *The Vanguard Guitar* and *Fourteenth Century Counterpoint: Music of the Chantilly Codex*. The Vanguard Guitar was praised by Soundboard magazine as "a great success...not only a primer of modern techniques, but also a library of current performance practices."

As an historian, his research interests are centered on Patristic eschatology, particularly third and fourth century apocalypticism, Tyconian studies and the early medieval commentary tradition on the Revelation of John. His current book projects include a translation of the Cambridge Apocalypse commentary and a reconstruction of the Hiberno-Latin gloss that underpins it (both with Dr. Francis X. Gumerlock). Each spring, he hosts *Through a Glass Darkly: UCCS Symposium on Apocalyptic* at the Heller Center for Arts & Humanities.

The 2016-17 season includes the release of two new CDs: *NOISE plays the music of Stuart Saunders Smith* on Centaur Records, and *The Four Cycles – Music by Peter Scott Lewis* on Naxos, as well as the release of a video course on the fundamentals of guitar produced by *The Great Courses*. Upcoming performances include: solo recital presentations of *The Library at Night* in California and Colorado; chamber music with the Veronika String Quartet, McAllister-Keller Duo, Colorado College Summer Music Festival and Peak Frequency Creative Arts; the *SoundON X Festival of Modern Music*; a concerto performance with the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs; and numerous engagements with the *Trilix Jazz Trio* and the *Hennessy 6*. Colin earned the Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of California, San Diego. He currently serves as Co-Director of the Music Program, Lecturer in Humanities, and member of the advisory board for the Center for Religious Diversity and Public Life at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

Martha Muehleisen- violin/viola

Violinist Martha Muehleisen has performed throughout the US and Europe as an orchestral, chamber, and solo musician. Martha is an advocate for new music, performing with groups such as the Great Noise Ensemble in Washington, DC and the Mobtown Modern series in Baltimore, Maryland. She was selected as a participant in the Lucerne Festival Academy in Lucerne, Switzerland where she was able to work with Pierre Boulez and members of the Ensemble Intercontemporain. Martha is a founding member of the Matrix Project, a string quartet based in Colorado Springs. She is also a founding member of the Penbridge Trio, which presented a concert series of all new music in the United Kingdom in the summer of 2010. In 2009, Martha participated in the soundSCAPE music festival in Pavia, Italy, where she premiered several pieces by young composers. She has been fortunate to work with conductors such as Marin Alsop, Pierre Boulez, Peter Eötvös, David Robertson, and James DePriest. She completed her Masters Degree at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University in 2007, studying primarily with Herbert Greenberg, and has also completed a Certificate of Contemporary Music Performance at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, studying with Airi Yoshioka. Martha currently serves as violin/viola faculty at University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

Gerald Miller - cello

Marc Neihof - bass

Marc Neihof is a virtuoso bassist with the rare ability to excel in two worlds: jazz and classical music. Originally from the Washington D.C. area, he began studying bass at age 12 with University of Maryland Professor Robert Gibson. Marc's university training began at the Peabody Conservatory of Music and continued at the University of Miami, where he earned a degree in Music Performance under the tutelage of Lucas Drew. Marc returned to the D.C. area where he played with the Annapolis Symphony while honing his jazz skills with top East Coast musicians, as well as studying theory and ear training with renowned music scholar Asher Zlotnik. After joining the Colorado Springs Symphony in 1993, Marc became an active force on the Colorado jazz scene. He has played or recorded with Arturo Sandoval, Herb Ellis, Ron Miles, Gene Bertoni, Dave Valentine, Phil Berlin, George Colligan, Keith Oxman, and Joe Bonner. A beloved presence in Colorado's musical circles, he has also achieved international renown, performing regularly in China as well as in Dubai and India. Marc teaches bass at Colorado College and the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

Janet Feder - guitar

(Classical/Fingerstyle for Composers & Performers, Improvisation, Extended Techniques)

A native of Boulder, Colorado, Janet Feder is most widely known for pioneering composition for prepared guitar. She has been featured on numerous recordings, radio programs, and film scores. 2012 greets the release of her new solo album *Songs With Words* issued on SACD (Super Audio Compact Disc which offers either 5.1 surround or stereo playback, depending on the listener's system) and 180 gram vinyl. Deeply layered, textured and intimate the recording features Janet's signature prepared guitar compositions for the first time accompanying her voice. Janet has taught extensively in the United States and toured solo and with her duo cowhouse (with Colin Bricker, live electronics) across the U.S., Europe, and Israel. She has performed and collaborated with a thoroughly diverse landscape of great musicians including Fred Frith, Nels Cline, Bill Frisell, Elliott Sharp, Amy Denio, Ron Miles, Wu Fei, Mike Johnson/Thinking Plague, Mark Harris, Susan Alcorn, Paolo Angeli and Tatsuya Nakatani.

My work with students relates most specifically to the primary elements at the confluence of artistic process and articulate listening. Extended guitar technique work, while offering countless variations and possibilities, is supported by the objectives and perspectives gained through expanding both the creative mind and deepening one's understanding of listening. This work unfolds in the classroom through specific exercises that suggest the student's role in their own intentionality and emphasizes making music over playing music. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in Musicology from the University of Massachusetts. I have taught at colleges and universities around the United States; I taught at Naropa University from 1999 to 2010 and chaired the Music Department there from 2007-2010. I am recipient of a Ucross Foundation artist residency (autumn 2012). For the best overview of my work and perspective please visit this feature aired July 22, 2012 on National Public Radio's Sunday Morning Edition:

<http://www.npr.org/2012/07/22/157169369/janet-feder-an-avant-garde-artist-takes-a-real-risk>

Alan Joseph - guitar (jazz)

Colorado's own, Alan Joseph is getting attention beyond the Rockies with his unique ensemble works that range far beyond the music normally associated with jazz guitar headliners. Alan's recording Heavy Water Music, available on Fahrenheit Records (www.CDNow.com), was released to wide critical acclaim and he has appeared in Guitar Player, Guitar, and JAZZIZ magazines. When the highly regarded Jazz station KRCC named its top 10 albums a few years ago, Earl Klugh, the Crusaders and Harry Connick all made the list. Guess who was No.1? Alan Joseph, with his independently produced release Heavy Water Music. Joseph and his group received rave reviews in JAZZIZ and an article in Guitar Magazine refers to Joseph's playing as "like Pat Metheny, he also has a feel for new melodies that sound familiar. We're talking ear-candy here, the kind that always finds an audience." (John Stix; Guitar For The Practicing Musician)

A sampling of Alan's performances include dates with Bernadette Peters, Maria Schneider, Dave Valentin, Diahann Carroll, Herb Ellis, Rich Chiari, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Gene Bertoni, Dale Bruning, Jerry Hahn, Ron Miles, Javon Jackson, Phil Urso, Sue Raney, Johnny Smith and more.

As an instructor and lecturer of Jazz Guitar and Electric Bass for 34+ years, Alan seeks to find the relationship between the student and the expression of music, and is excellent at establishing the student's own instrumental voice in the pursuit of their artistic goals.

For more information:

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