

THE BUTLER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
presents

The
DUCKWALL
ARTIST *Series*

A grand piano is positioned on a stage, illuminated by a warm, golden light that creates a soft glow around it. The piano is dark in color, and its lid is open. The background is a gradient of blue and orange, suggesting a stage setting.

DAVIS BROOKS, *violin*
and
SHELDON PERSON, *viola*

Tuesday April 1, 2025
7:30 P.M.
Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Duo in G Major for Violin and Viola, K. 423 (1783)

W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Allegro

Adagio

Rondeau: Allegro

Wild Purple for solo viola (1998)

Joan Tower (b. 1938)

Selected Duos for Two Violins (1982)

Luciano Berio (1925-2003)

Arr. Brooks/Person

Béla (Bartok)

Henri (Pousseur)

Rodion (Schedrin)

Igor (Stravinsky)

Camilla (Adami)

Marcello (Panni)

Leonardo (Pinzauti)

Franco (Gulli)

Lele (d'Amico)

Fiamma (Nicolodi)

Carlo (Chiarappa)

Aldo (Bennici)

Alfred (Schlee)

Intermission

Duo in B-flat Major for Violin and Viola, K. 424 (1783)

W.A. Mozart

Adagio - Allegro

Andante cantabile

Theme and Variations

Labyrinthum for violin and tape (2024, world premiere)

Patrick Long (b. 1968)

Sonata en Duo para Violín y Viola (1938)

Manuel M. Ponce (1882-1948)

Allegro, piuttosto moderato

Andante espresso, In tempo di Sarabanda

Allegro

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

SHELDON PERSON

Praised by the Edmonton Journal for performing “with precision and grace,” and by NUVO Magazine for his “consistently rich tone [and] expressive, intense playing,” Sheldon Person is a violist in the Houston Symphony and enjoys an active career as a chamber musician, recitalist, and teacher.

As a member of the Houston Symphony, Mr. Person performs more than 150 concerts annually with internationally renowned soloists and conductors. He has toured with the Houston Symphony in seven countries on three continents, and performed with them on their live recording of Alban Berg’s *Wozzeck* that received the 2017 Grammy Award. Mr. Person was previously a member of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and has also performed with the London Symphony Orchestra, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Mainly Mozart Festival Orchestra, and as soloist and guest principal with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Person has appeared on the Houston Symphony Chamber Music Series, the Texas Music Festival, Musica Tra Amici, Musiq̄ Houston, and the Zenith Chamber Music Festival at Drake University. Radio broadcasts include appearances on Houston Public Radio and NPR. Mr. Person’s collaborations on new trios by Per Mårtensson and Karim Al-Zand were released on the Centaur Records label in 2017 and 2018. He has also given world and European premiere performances of *Variations on a theme of Bartók*, a work for viola and piano that was written for him by Mr. Al-Zand. Mr. Person has performed as a guest artist at Rice University, University of Houston, Indiana State University, and Michigan State University.

Since 2016, Mr. Person has been a regular faculty member at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, and has also served as an instructor for the Texas Music Festival, TexStrings All-State Camp, Indiana All-State Orchestra, and Filarmónica Joven de Colombia, and as a clinician at the University of Alberta. Past members of his private studio have been accepted to study at Indiana University, Rice University, Oberlin Conservatory, Boston Conservatory, the Manhattan School of Music, the Eastman School of Music, the Juilliard School, the Mannes School of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music, the University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Houston.

He is the past President of Third Space Music, a nonprofit partnership between musicians from the Houston Symphony and the Houston community that presents four chamber music concerts annually and contributes to Houston-area nonprofit organizations.

As first prize winner of the Royal Overseas League’s Bernard Shore Viola Competition, Mr. Person performed recitals in London, including an appearance at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. While a member of the Artea String Quartet, Leverhulme Fellows at the Royal Academy of Music, Mr. Person performed chamber music throughout the U.K., including appearances at Wigmore Hall, the South Bank Centre, the Brighton Festival, Buckingham Palace, and live on BBC Radio 3. He was also the winner of the Wayne Crouse Viola Prize at the Corpus Christi International Competition for Piano and Strings.

Mr. Person holds degrees and certificates from The Guildhall School of Music and Drama (London), Indiana University, Rice University, and the University of Alberta. His principal teachers have included Atar Arad, David Takeno, and Karen Ritscher. As a fellow of the Aspen Music Festival and School, he served as the Assistant Principal Viola of both the Aspen Festival and Chamber Orchestras.

Mr. Person performs on a modern viola by Theodore Skreko that was awarded the silver medal for tone at the 2010 Violin Society of America Competition. He is a native of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. For more information, visit www.sheldonperson.com.

DAVIS BROOKS

Davis Brooks comes from a diverse musical background as soloist, pedagogue, orchestral musician, studio musician, concertmaster on Broadway, conductor, and chamber musician. His teaching experience has included faculty appointments at Baylor University, Wayne State University, the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire, Bucknell University, DePauw University, University of Indianapolis, and Butler University, where he is Professor of Violin Emeritus. Dr. Brooks also held the 2015-2016 University of Alabama School of Music Endowed Chair in Music Composition. Presently he is concertmaster of the Carmel Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Brooks has recorded five solo CDs. Two include music for violin plus electronics, and feature music by composers Filipe Leitão, Patrick Long, Otto Leuning, James Aikman, James Mobberley, and Frank Felice, as well as a CD of the violin music of composer C.P. First. *Lines from Poetry*, released in March 2023, includes music by Ronald Caltabiano, Richard Einhorn, and Balee Pongklad. *Early Musings* features solo music written for him by ten Alabama composers. Other recordings include *Reflection on a Hymn of Thanksgiving* by Frank Felice, *With Every Leaf a Miracle* by Mark Schultz, *Manunya* by Frank Glover, and the Kodaly String Trio with violist Csaba Erdelyi and violinist Vasile Beluska.

Having served as Associate Concertmaster of the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra for fifteen years, Dr. Brooks was also a member of the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra at Lincoln Center for ten years. For nineteen years, he played in the New York Chamber Symphony, which produced over twenty critically acclaimed recordings during his tenure. Dr. Brooks has been concertmaster of the Chamber Orchestra of New England, the Harrisburg Symphony, and the Waco Symphony. Dr. Brooks has concertized in China, Japan, Europe, and South America.

He performs frequently with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and is active in the many commercial recording studios in the Indianapolis area.

At Yale University, where he received a master's degree in violin performance, Dr. Brooks studied with Broadus Erle and Syoko Aki. His doctorate, also in violin performance, is from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Other important teachers with whom he has studied include Joyce Robbins, George Neikrug, Russell Hatz, and Raymond Page; he has studied chamber music with Julius Levine, Josef Gingold, Aldo Parisot, and members of the Tokyo, Alard, and Guarneri Quartets.

Chamber music is his first love. He has been a member of the Indianapolis Chamber Players, the Commonwealth and Landolfi Quartets, as well as the Meridian and Essex Piano Trios. In addition, Dr. Brooks's special interests include both the performance of music by contemporary composers and performance on original instruments, particularly the music of the Baroque period. He is a founding member of both the Chicago 21st-Century Music Ensemble and the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra. Recording four CDs with the progressive rock band The Psychedelic Ensemble has been a most pleasurable diversion, as has performing with the Indianapolis band Progressive Lenses. Oddly his favorite color has changed from blue to green in the last decade, and he enjoys a good cup of coffee.

Scan the QR code to support the Butler University School of Music!



JCA LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We gather here at Butler University on the traditional homelands of Indigenous peoples who were forcibly removed from this place. These peoples include the Myaamiaki (Miami), Lenape (Delaware), Bodewadmi (Potawatomi), Saawanwa (Shawnee), Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo), and Peouaroua (Peoria) peoples. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the indigenous peoples past and present who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This acknowledgement calls us to commit to hearing and engaging Indigenous voices and perspectives and to being better stewards of the land we inhabit. It also calls us to action. Learn more by scanning the QR code for additional information.



The Butler University School of Music is proud to acknowledge
Meridian Piano Movers
as a corporate sponsor of our programs.

