

Old Dominion University's  
F. Ludwig

# Diehn Concert Series



**Jim Walker, flute**

**with**

**Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano**

**John Toomey, piano**

**Russ Helm, drums**

**Randall Pharr, bass**

Concert: Monday, Jan. 25, 2016, 8 p.m.

Master Class: Tuesday Jan. 26, 2016, 12:30 p.m.

Wilson G. Chandler Recital Hall

F. Ludwig Diehn Center for the Performing Arts



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# Program

Sonata in E Major #6

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685 – 1750)

Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano

Sonatine

Henri Dutilleux (1916 – 2013)

Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano

Blowout

Timothy Hagan (b 1946)

Song for Susan

Mike Garson (b 1945)

Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano

Deviations on the  
Carnival of Venice

Mike Mower (b 1958)

Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano

INTERMISSION

Jazz selections will be announced from the stage.



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**An endowment established at the Hampton Roads Community Foundation,  
made possible by a generous gift from F. Ludwig Diehn, funds this program.**

# Biographies

## **Jim Walker**

Few other flutists in history have made such indelible marks in so many musical circles. From jazz to pop to classical, television to film to the concert hall, Jim Walker has never met a crowd that didn't love his powerful "stand and deliver" performances. His star began to rise when Walker was named associate principal flute in the Pittsburgh Symphony after a stint playing in the U.S. Military Academy Band at West Point. He quickly gained the admiration of colleagues and audiences in Pittsburgh and set his sights on principal flute jobs. After eight years he won the principal flute position in the Los Angeles Philharmonic and never looked back.

To be principal flute of a major orchestra is to sit at the pinnacle of the profession. Most flutists who reach that height are content to spend the rest of their careers there, but Walker felt an eagerness and aspiration to move his music-making forward yet again. After seven successful seasons of performing, recording and touring with the Los Angeles Philharmonic—during which time the New York Philharmonic briefly borrowed him as principal flute for its 1982 South American tour—Walker left the orchestra, diving off the mountaintop into the world of jazz, studio recording and a commitment to teaching.

Jazz had been Walker's earliest musical love, and he was inspired to get back to it by LA's lively club scene. After a few years of avid listening in dives and gaining confidence undercover in the practice room, he organized his jazz quartet Free Flight. Flute, piano, bass and drums playing a unique fusion of jazz and classical music propelled Free Flight to take the music world by storm. Walker's unique combination of vision and determination pushed the group to multiple appearances on "The Tonight Show" and the "Today" show and brought them a No. 1 record ("Slice of Life"). By the time Jean-Pierre Rampal—the granddaddy of modern classical flutists—called "Jimmy" his "favorite jazz flute player" in the 1990s, Walker was a bona fide "jazz flute man."

# Biographies

Life has been equally good for Walker in LA's famed studio scene. Until June 2010, he was a first-call studio flutist for the better part of two decades; his bold, expressive playing can be heard on hundreds of soundtracks and commercial recordings. His playing became the gold standard from Hollywood to Carnegie Hall and unlocked the door to studio and concert collaborations with everyone from John Williams and Paul McCartney—"the thrill of a lifetime," says Walker—to Leonard Bernstein, James Galway and the LA Guitar Quartet.

After all the reviews have been written and the stage and studio lights dim, however, Walker has said that the one aspect of his career he could maintain to the grave is teaching. He has been filling his students' lives with music for more than four decades, just as his own parents—Bob, a jazz clarinetist and public school band director, and Barbara, a church organist—filled his upbringing in Greenville, Ky., with piano and flute lessons. He became a graduate and Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Louisville as well as the university's first Alumni Fellow from the School of Music. To this day, Walker credits a parade of flute teachers with helping him rise through the ranks, from Sarah Fouse and Francis Fuge in Kentucky to the Metropolitan Opera's Harold Bennett, the Philadelphia Orchestra's James Pellerite, and internationally renowned flutist and conductor Claude Monteux.

Walker's gratitude to his teachers is returned to him by his students. As professor of practice and coordinator of flute studies at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music and instructor of flute, chamber music and music technology at the Colburn Conservatory of Music, Walker devotes at least 20 hours a week to steering the careers of young flutists. Before coming to Los Angeles, his teaching career included positions at Duquesne University, Carnegie-Mellon and the University of Pittsburgh, and since arriving in Southern California, he has been invited to be visiting professor at the University of North Texas, the University of

Texas-Austin and Arizona State University. In the summer of 2014, he was asked to be visiting professor at The Music Academy of The West in Santa Barbara, Calif. Walker has taught hundreds of flutists, both privately and at these renowned institutions. Many of them have gone on to successful orchestral careers, holding principal flute chairs in major symphonies from Phoenix to Boston to Beijing. Still others have careers in fields as varied as gospel music and arts administration. Walker is not interested in simply training musicians; he inspires each pupil as a whole person, and students leave his tutelage feeling empowered, reaching for the stars.

With such a legacy, it is no wonder that students on four continents have flocked to hear his recitals and master classes. Walker's creativity allows him to reach not only these students but also others he never sees with his editions of flute masterworks on the Alfred Music Publications Young Artist Series. He is also completing a set of flute method books filled with unique, fun, highly instructional exercises so that future generations can continue to benefit from his wealth of knowledge and generosity. Dynamic soloist, legendary orchestral and studio musician, celebrated jazz flutist, and an inspiration to countless students worldwide; Jim Walker is living proof that with enough creativity and determination, one can reach the stars. He is a living legend, and a true Renaissance man of the flute.

Jim Walker is a performing artist for Burkart and Resona flutes and piccolos.

## **Oksana Lutsyshyn**

Oksana Lutsyshyn was born in the city of Lviv, Ukraine. A graduate of the Moscow State Conservatory, Lutsyshyn gave a New York debut in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and a Chicago debut in the Preston Bradley Hall at Chicago Cultural Center. She

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is presently on the faculty at Old Dominion University teaching piano and music theory. She is also an artistic co-director of the Norfolk Chamber Consort and a founding member of the Invenia Piano Duo, which won the 2014 Veer Magazine Local Artists Award in the best classical music category. As a chamber musician, Lutsyshyn has played in ensembles with prominent musicians such as tenor James King, tubist Harvey Phillips and violinist Joshua Bell, with whom she has made a recording for the BBC. An internationally acclaimed recording artist, she is featured on labels such as Naxos, Albany Records, Vienna Modern Masters and Contemporary Record Society. Lutsyshyn won the second prize at the Vienna Modern Masters' Third International Performers' Recording Award. She also won the Prince George Council County Art Prize at the William Kapell International Piano Competition in College Park, Md.

## **John Toomey**

John Toomey is currently a University Professor of music at Old Dominion University. A recipient of both the SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award and the Distance Learning Professor of the Year Award, Toomey teaches myriad classes in jazz studies and music technology. He is also chair of the music department and music director for the Attucks Jazz Series. Prior to joining the faculty at Old Dominion University, he was music director and keyboardist for jazz trumpet legend Maynard Ferguson, with whom he recorded two CDs. Toomey is still an active performer, touring the world with such artists as Mark Murphy and Rene Marie, and he has performed in Africa, Portugal, France, Japan, Switzerland and the Dominican Republic. He has also composed several soundtracks for features and documentaries for the History Channel, the Discovery Channel and NBC. Professor Toomey holds a master of music degree from the Eastman School of Music.

## **Russ Helm**

Russ Helm is from Southwest Virginia and began playing drums at an early age. He earned a degree in music performance from Virginia Commonwealth University as part of the jazz program headed by Doug Richards. He has also studied with or participated in programs headed by Gunther Schuller, Steve Johns, Victor Lewis and Justin Dicioccio. Over the course of his musical career, Helm has played with many talented musicians including Kenny Washington, Ken Peplowski and John D'earth. He currently resides in Richmond, Va.

## **Randall Pharr**

Randall Pharr is an adjunct professor of jazz bass at the University of Richmond and Virginia Commonwealth University. Pharr performed bass on "Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby" with Bruce Hornsby, included in the dark comedy "World's Greatest Dad," starring Robin Williams. He is featured on "Blue Shift," a recent release by trumpeter Rex Richardson and saxophonist Steve Wilson. Pharr recently played at Small's in New York City with the Charles Owens Quartet, featuring world-renowned guitarist Peter Bernstein. In July 2013 Pharr traveled to Izmir, Turkey, to teach at the Izmir International Jazz Camp. Other career highlights include performing with Clark Terry, Charlie Byrd, Bob Moses, Charlie Haden, and at the Kennedy Center on many occasions with the Great American Music Ensemble, directed by Doug Richards. Pharr performs locally with multiple groups including Robert Jospe and Inner Rhythm, the John Winntet, the Jeff Decker Quartet, and Brian Jones. Pharr first studied electric bass with Tim Reynolds (Dave Matthews Band), and then studied upright bass at Virginia Commonwealth University under the tutelage of Clarence Seay.

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# Diehn Concert Series

2015—2016 Season

Sept. 18 and 21, 2015

**Birth of an Answer: Within Our Gates**

Oct. 19, 2015

**Glen Velez and Loire Cotler**

Nov. 16, 2015

**Measha Brueggergosman**

Jan. 25, 2016

**Jim Walker**

Feb. 29, 2016

**Harlem Quartet and Ida Kavafian**

March 21, 2016

**Penelope Crawford and Martha Guth**

April 18, 2016

**Kenny Washington with the John Toomey Trio**



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