



UArkMusic

2026-2027 Season

Music Monday Concert Series

Courtney Miller, oboe

with Eric Frei, piano

Theresa Delaplain, oboe

Monday, September 14, 2026

Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall

7:30 p.m.

In Search of Wonder

Glass Terminals (2023)

- I. transcience
- II. aria
- III. hub

Sam Wu
(b. 1995)

Saudade for Oboe Solo (1999)

- II. Largo con espressione

Manuel Pedro Ferreira
(b. 1959)

On Holt Avenue (2014)

- I. Morning Coffee
- II. The Lemon Tree
- III. That Mocking Bird...
- IV. Daisies

Jenni Brandon
(b. 1977)

INTERMISSION

A Wedding Waltz (1986)

André Previn
(1929-2019)

Theresa Delaplain, Oboe

Sensations (2023)

II. Perfume/Miasma

Jeffrey Agrell
(b. 1964)

Three Romances Opus 22 (1853)

II. Allegretto

Clara Schumann
(1819-1896)

Tales of the Alhambra (2021)

Álvaro Cámara López
(b. 1993)

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PERSONNEL

Dr. Courtney Miller is the oboe professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she teaches oboe, chamber music, and reed making. Before coming to the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, she served on faculty at the University of Iowa in Iowa, Boston College in Massachusetts, and Ashland University in Ohio.

A highly regarded performer and pedagogue, Dr. Miller tours as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America. Her 2023 tour in Thailand promoted her newest album collaboration, *Hans Gál: Works for Viola, Piano, Violin & Oboe*, released in 2022 on Centaur Records. Also an experienced orchestral musician, Miller has performed in many orchestras in the United States, such as the Chicago Symphony, Orchestra Iowa, Quad Cities Symphony, Jacksonville Symphony, Portland Symphony, Akron Symphony, and the Cleveland Opera. She will perform with the North Carolina Opera in 2023-2024.

Dr. Miller is a versatile artist devoted to performing established repertoire, new compositions, and lesser-known works. Her 2019 album *Portuguese Perspectives* introduces a collection of world-premiere recordings for the oboe by Portuguese composers and includes several new commissions by Miller. This album and her 2015 release, *Modern Fairy Tales*, are available on iTunes, Amazon, and Spotify. American Record Guide praises her “seamless consistency in the various registers of the oboe...and sensitive phrasing and articulation.” Fanfare Magazine hails Courtney Miller as “a performer of considerable skill, with an unfailingly lovely sound, abundant technical ability, and a special gift for turning notes into poetry.”

In addition to collaborations within the field of music, Dr. Miller has a flair for interdisciplinary work. She has collaborated with hip-hop dancer Ernest “EKnock” Phillips, belly dancer Janelle Issis, and most recently, choreographer and dancer Kristin Marrs. Since 2016, Marrs and Miller have performed in many concerts featuring oboe and dancer and have toured together throughout the United States. Perhaps her most daring collaboration yet is “Psionic”, which explores interactive movement data between oboist and computer through a live stream of EEG data with composer Christopher Jette, printmaker Terry Conrad, and digital media designer Daniel Fine.

Dr. Miller has authored articles published in the Double Reed Journal and the Journal of the American Viola Society. She has also presented recitals and papers at the College Music Society’s Northeast Regional Conference. Dr. Miller performs recitals regularly at the International Double Reed Society’s annual conferences. In 2017, she was a featured artist at the first international conference of the Associação Brasileira de Palhetas Duplas (Brazilian Double Reed Society or ABPD).

Courtney Miller has a Doctor of Musical Arts from Boston University, a Master of Music from Cleveland Institute of Music, and a Bachelor of Music from Florida State University. Her primary teachers include John Ferrillo, John Mack, and Eric Ohlsson.

Dr. Miller is a member of the International Double Reed Society, the College Music Society, and Sigma Alpha Iota. Courtney Miller is a Lorée Artist.

Dr. Theresa Delaplain is an esteemed oboist and pedagogue, actively performing as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral musician. She has commissioned, performed, and recorded several new works for oboe and has been a champion of contemporary music. Delaplain is a founding organizer of the SHE Festival of Women in Music, a yearly international festival to promote music written by women. She is the First Place winner of the 2025 American Prize Instrumental Soloist division, and she is a Lorée Artist.

Her solo album, *Souvenirs*, with pianist Tomoko Kashiwagi, has earned glowing reviews in several publications. It was described in *Fanfare* as "...a fascinating mix of repertoire, performed to the highest of standards. This is a fabulously thought-out excursion into the oboe repertoire, beautifully recorded." A description in *The Double Reed* proclaimed that "Delaplain's mellow tone is beautifully suited to the melismatic phrases." In 2025 Delaplain released *Her Voice* with pianist Miroslava Panayotova, an album of music by women for oboe and piano.

Delaplain has been a panelist and presenter at several festivals and conferences, and she has also recently resumed composing and performing her own works. She won a grant to perform in Creative Arkansas Community Hub and Exchange's "Mixtape" series in a social justice program of works for oboe and multimedia, and her composition *Monet Suite* for oboe/English horn and piano was published by Trevco Music Publishing.

Delaplain has performed as concerto soloist with the Fort Smith Symphony, the North Arkansas Symphony, the Arkansas Philharmonic, the Thai National Orchestra, the LOU Orchestra, the Tulsa Youth Symphony, and the University of Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Wind Symphony, and Chamber Orchestra. She currently serves as Principal Oboist for the Fort Smith Symphony, and the Arkansas Philharmonic. As oboist with the Lyrique Quintette, Delaplain has toured Panama, Spain, Germany, Thailand, Canada, and throughout the United States. The quintet recently released *Arrivals and Departures: Music of the Americas* on the Mark Classic label, and they previously released *Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue*. Delaplain has performed at many International Double Reed Society Conventions.

A dedicated educator, Delaplain is an Associate Professor at the University of Arkansas, where she teaches oboe and music theory and is Woodwind Area Coordinator. She has taught at the Interlochen Center for the Arts Summer Arts Camp, the Midwest Double

Reed Camp, and the Saaburg International Music Festival and School in Germany. She has been active as a clinician and adjudicator, including appearances at the Mid-South Double Reed Society Festival, Valdosta State University Double Reed Day, University of Central Oklahoma Oboe Day, KState Oboe Day, East Carolina Oboe Day, and the Arkansas All-State Music Convention.

Delaplain has also written a popular oboe reed-making book, *My Kingdom for a Reed!*, and is the co-host of *Something to Crow About!*, a YouTube channel devoted to oboe reed-making.

Eric David Frei is a pianist, vocal coach, and conductor whose work spans a wide range of genres, including opera, musical theatre, and chamber music. He is currently an Instructor of Collaborative Piano at the University of Arkansas, where he works with singers and instrumentalists while maintaining an active performing career throughout the region.

Frei's recent performance work includes appearances with Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma and performances with The Phantom of the Opera artists Eryn LeCroy and John Riddle at the Walton Arts Center. He previously served as the Assistant Professor of Professional Practice-Music Director at Oklahoma State University (2022–2026), where he conducted musical theatre productions and worked extensively with BFA Musical Theatre students. From 2016–2022, he served as a Vocal Coach at Oklahoma City University, working primarily with opera and musical theatre students.

His professional opera experience includes work with Tri-Cities Opera, Seagle Music Colony, Taos Opera Institute, and First Coast Opera, where he has served as a vocal coach, répétiteur, assistant conductor, and chorus master. Frei holds a Master of Music in Opera Production and Vocal Coaching from Florida State University, where he accompanied and music directed opera productions under the mentorship of Douglas Fisher.