Welcome...

I am delighted to welcome you to our concert today, just a sample of the richness and diversity of our musical offerings throughout the year.

Composition, Performance, and Scholarship—these are the central activities of the undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty in the Department of Music.

The intellectual and artistic life in the Department of Music is enhanced not only by our superb faculty, but also by our internationally acclaimed Ph.D. programs in musicology and composition. We invite you to sample our Composers Ensemble Concerts, where you can hear premieres of new works by our graduate and faculty composers, or take advantage of the many pre-concert lectures and conferences sponsored by our musicologists.

Our music majors spend their senior years as composers, conductors, music historians, producers, directors, and performers. Some will go on to major performing careers, such as Anthony Roth Costanzo ’04, who will be making his Metropolitan Opera debut this season, and others will be accepted by the best graduate music programs in the country. The Department of Music’s certificate programs in Musical Performance and Jazz Studies allow undergraduate students from across the University to study and play music at the highest level, nurturing a lifelong passion for music and a commitment to the performing arts.

In addition, we provide to the greater student community of Princeton University the opportunity to perform in our departmental ensembles: the Orchestra, Glee Club, Jazz Ensembles, Sinfonia, Musica Alta and Wind Ensemble and to take private instrumental and vocal lessons. Finally, we are particularly proud of having played a leading role at Princeton in the campus-wide arts initiative through our support of innovative collaborations in the arts and humanities, ranging from the performance of newly edited baroque operas to reconstructions of ballets by Serge Prokofiev.

We look forward to seeing you at our next Music Department event!

With best wishes for a rewarding academic year,

Wendy Heller
Professor and Acting Chair, Department of Music

Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 8:00PM
Taplin Auditorium in Fine Hall

The Composers Ensemble at Princeton
Barbara White and Michael Pratt, Directors

ENSEMBLE AVALON (PIANO TRIO, IRELAND)
Iona Petcu-Colan, Violin
Gerald Peregrino, Cello
Michael McHale, Piano

Leonard Bernstein - Piano Trio (1937)
Allegro con brio
Adagio (alla breve) con moto
Tempo moderato e molto ritmico

Bernstein completed this Piano Trio when he was a nineteen-year-old student at Harvard, but it was not published in his lifetime. The work is remarkable for a greater level of dissonance and polytonality than is generally found in Bernstein’s later music. Unusually, more than the jazz elements which dominated his mature output, much of the material has a distinct folk-like flavor, an influence filtered, perhaps, through the music of Stravinsky.

Philip Hammond - from Miniatures and Modulations for Solo Piano (2011)
An Irish Lullaby
Rose Dillon (Jigg)
John O’Reilly the Active

Philip Hammond was born in Belfast in 1951 and is one of Northern Ireland’s leading composers. This new series of solo piano works was commissioned by the Belfast Festival at Queen’s University, in celebration of Philip’s sixtieth birthday earlier this year.
Each piece initially presents a folksong from the 1796 'Bunting Collection of Irish Airs' (the 'miniature'), paired with an elaboration, development or variation (the 'modulation').

Philip Hammond - French Blue for Solo Piano (1991)

Commissioned as a test piece for the 1991 Dublin International Piano Competition, French Blue is the first of three "colour pieces" for solo piano (the others being Irish Green and African Black). The title refers to the two clear influences in the style and content of the music - Gershwin and the "blues" and Olivier Messiaen and the twentieth century French school of composers.

Eibhlis Farrell - Stillsong for solo cello (1994)

Stillsong is a short solo cello work composed in 1994 by Eibhlis Farrell, one of Ireland's leading composers and educators. As the title suggests, much of the work plays with the idea of the suspension of time, and of the important relationship between sound and silence.

Jonathan Russell - Piano Trio (2011)

Piano Trio is a dark and brooding piece. A slow, ponderous opening gives way to feverishly undulating figures in the piano under sighing melodies in the violin and cello. A buildup culminates in oozingly descending piano chords, sinking down into a pit of oblivion, and a final return of the opening sonority. This piece is dedicated to the (former) carpet in the upstairs lake-facing room of SP Magie Apartment.

---INTERMISSION---

Ian Wilson - Spilliaert’s Beach for Violin and Piano (1999)

Ian Wilson is one of Ireland's most active and well-known composers, holding residency posts with organisations such as the Ulster Orchestra and Camerata Pacifica in California. Inspired by Léon Spilliaert's painting Moonlight Beach, this work was originally conceived for alto flute and piano, but has perhaps been most widely performed in this arrangement for violin and piano.

Dan Trueman - Triptick for Piano Trio (2006)

Left (Foil/Clock)
Center (Stretch/Steel)
Right (Keen/Hide)

In my very first composition class when I was 22 (I got a late start), one of my peers argued passionately that a good piece will have all its materials in the opening moments and that its trajectory will be predetermined from this moment on. Beginner that I was, I was impressed if not convinced, and today I find it hilarious. The three "variations on a piece" that make up Triptick all begin identically and then diverge, introducing new material as needed. Another motivation for this design was words that have multiple seemingly unrelated meanings: Foi!, Clock, Stretch, Keen, Hide, Trip, Tick, etc.... (try thinking of these when falling asleep). Is it possible for music to function analogously? In each of these pieces, I had a pair of such words in mind and allowed their meanings to inspire my compositional process, sometimes directly, as with "stretch," which directly motivated both the warped meters and stretched chord progressions (where a stack of minor-9ths is gradually stretched to a stack of major-9ths, for instance). A third inspiration for composing a "variation in pieces" is the work of many painters (my mother included) who will paint a series based on a single subject; why choose one? Finally, I have an abstract feeling that somehow this piece is indebted to Schubert; material heard earlier floats by periodically, and then disappears, as if in a dream — not unlike my experiences hearing, say, Schubert's E-flat Piano Trio.
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J. S. Bach - Solo Violin Sonata in A Minor, Andante BWV 1003

Bach's set of six unaccompanied sonatas and partitas for the violin represent the unchallenged peak in solo violin music, both in technique and in expressive variety. The Andante offers a flowing melody over a steady bass line (unbroken eighth-notes) in the manner of a Vivaldi concerto. A third and a fourth voice enter from time to time to enrich the harmony.

Benedict Schlepper-Connolly - A Space of Life Between for Piano Trio (2010)

Benedict Schlepper-Connolly was born in Dublin, where he studied composition with Donnacha Dennehy at Trinity College, and later with Justin Dello Joio at NYU. The composer writes: "...much of this music was composed in the company of John Keats, in worn paperback, travelling southward across the Swiss Alps. 'There is a space of life between,' writes the poet, 'in which the soul is in ferment, the character undecided, the way of life uncertain, the ambition thick-sighted.' Keats died three years later, aged twenty-five, of tuberculosis..." The pulsing eighth notes throughout are derived from the preceding Andante by J. S. Bach.

Please join us for a reception downstairs following the concert.

Ensemble Avalon is one of Ireland’s leading chamber music groups. Ioana Petcu-Colan (violin), Michael McHale (piano) and Gerald Peregrine (cello) formed Ensemble Avalon in 2006 and have since performed regularly throughout Ireland and abroad, garnering praise for their dynamic and engaging performances. In 2011 they were appointed as the first ever ATP Ensemble in Residence at Trinity College Dublin, in collaboration with the Hugh Lane Gallery and the National Concert Hall. In 2008, Ensemble Avalon established the Wexford Chamber Music Festival, an annual weekend of concerts and recitals in Wexford featuring special guest artists from Ireland and abroad. Composers from whom the trio has commissioned works for the festival include Ronan Guilfoyle, Ariel Hernandez and Benedict Schlepper-Connolly. 2008 also saw the release of Ensemble Avalon’s highly acclaimed début album on the RTÉ lyric fm label. Recorded in St. Peter’s Church, Drogheda with producer Jonathan Allen of Abbey Road, London, the CD features piano trios by Bax, Bernstein and Beethoven. Classical Music Magazine described the Beethoven as belonging ‘in the front rank of modern versions on disc’, while Julian Haylock in The Strad wrote that the Bax was ‘one of the highlights of my listening year’.

Ensemble Avalon gratefully acknowledge the generous ongoing support of Music Network, the Arts Council of Ireland, Fáilte Ireland, RTÉ lyric fm and Music for Wexford. www.ensembleavalon.net.

Belfast-born pianist Michael McHale has established himself as one of the leading Irish pianists of his generation. Since completing his studies at Cambridge University and the Royal Academy of Music he has developed a busy career as a solo recitalist, concerto soloist and chamber musician. He has given notable solo performances at the Tanglewood Festival, the Ushuaia Festival in Argentina, Berlin Konzerthaus and Pesti Vigadó, Budapest, and broadcasts for TV and radio stations throughout Europe, Asia, North and South America. Michael has performed as soloist with the Bournemouth Symphony, Hallé and Moscow Symphony Orchestras, the London Mozart Players and all five of the major Irish orchestras in repertoire ranging from Mozart and Beethoven to Gershwin and Rachmaninov.

In addition to winning the prestigious Terence Judd/Hallé Award 2009 (previous winners include Nikolai Lugansky and Stephen Hough), Michael was awarded the Brennan and Field Prizes at the 2006 AXA Dublin International Piano Competition and the 2005 Camerata Ireland/Accenture Award. His teachers and mentors include John O’Conor, Christopher...
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Elton, Ronan O’Hora and Barry Douglas. Michael collaborates regularly with Sir James Galway, Michael Collins, Patricia Rozario and the Cappa Ensemble, and his discography includes recordings for Chandos, RTÉ lyric fm, Louth CMS and Lorelt.

An Irish violinist of Romanian origin, Ioana Petcu-Colan is an established soloist and chamber musician travelling internationally to perform from her current home in Northern Ireland.

She is equally at home working in a diverse range of genres, from top international orchestras and ensembles to collaborations with artists including John Abercrombie (jazz), Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill (traditional Irish) and Arcade Fire (rock), as well as members of the Alban Berg, Vanbrugh and Vogler Quartets and the Paris-Bastille Wind Octet. Ioana’s solo appearances with orchestra have featured Khachaturian, Shostakovich, Bruch, Beethoven, Mozart and both Prokofiev Violin Concertos as well as works by Saint-Saëns, Wieniawski, Mozart and Sarasate and concertos by Bach performed both on modern and baroque violin. Ioana is soloist on two CDs released by RTÉ and was invited to premier ‘Elastic Harmonic’ for Violin and Orchestra by Irish composer Donnacha Denney on Irish National Television.

A keen chamber musician, Ioana is former 1st violin and founder member of the Callino Quartet with whom she enjoyed a full and varied performing career including concert tours, festival appearances and recordings. In duo partnership she has performed the complete Beethoven Piano and Violin Sonata cycle and she is currently a member of Ensemble Avalon and associate leader of the Ulster Orchestra.

Ioana’s studies took her from Ireland through France, obtaining the Premier Prix a T’Unanimite at the age of sixteen, to the UK where she was awarded a 1st class Honours BMus degree from the Royal Academy of Music, London, before returning to Ireland to receive a 1-class MA in Performance from the Cork School of Music. Ioana plays on an Italian violin, built by Goffredo Cappa in 1695. www.ioanapetcucolan.com.

(continued on page 8)
Gerald Peregrine is an established soloist and chamber musician, performing regularly in Ireland, Europe and the USA. The youngest member of a well-known musical family, Gerald began studying music at the age of 3. Having first studied in Ireland, Gerald began commuting regularly to London at the age of 15 for tuition with the renowned William Pleeth OBE. At 18 he was awarded a Foundation Scholarship to study at the Royal College of Music, London, and on completion of his studies, Gerald was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to continue his studies at Indiana University. In 2007 he received a 1st class honours Masters from Limerick University, where he was RTÉ lyric fm Artist in Residence during his studies. He has appeared as soloist with both Irish National Youth Orchestras, the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, the RTÉ Concert Orchestra and the Orchestra of Saint Cecilia. He presented two successful recital series in the National Concert Hall, featuring the complete works for cello and piano by Beethoven, Bach and Brahms, broadcast by RTÉ Lyric fm. Recent highlights have included performances at the West Cork Chamber Music Festival, the Camerata Ireland Clandeboye Festival, as well as trio recitals in France, London, Portugal, Spain, Italy and around Ireland, and tours of the USA with pianist Barry Douglas. He made his Carnegie Hall debut earlier this year with Trio Festivale.

Gerald is a founding member of the critically acclaimed piano trio Ensemble Avalon. Since their inaugural concerts together in the summer of 2006 the trio has enjoyed many concert series and tours, including performances in Italy, UK and Ireland, with regular broadcasts on radio and television, and recently released their debut CD on the RTÉ Lyric fm label to critical acclaim. Gerald released his debut solo CD 'Heavenly' in 2007, featuring popular jazz and standard songs. www.geraldperegrine.com.

Philip Hammond

I now consider myself old enough to write what I feel like writing, unfettered by considerations of fads or fashions. Often my music is 'occasional', text-based or image-oriented. I hope it is always accessible in the best sense. Philip Hammond graduated from Queen's University, Belfast, in 1974 with the degrees of BMus and MA. He is Arts Development Director at the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. As a pianist, critic and broadcaster, he has a wide reputation in Irish musical circles. As a composer, he has been commissioned to write in a variety of media for many leading international artists and ensembles.

Eibhlinis Farrell

Eibhlinis Farrell studied composition with Raymond Warren, Charles Wuorinen and Robert Moews. She is a graduate of Queen's University, Belfast and Bristol University, and has a doctorate from Rutgers University, New Jersey. Her works cover a wide range of media and have been performed and broadcast throughout Europe and America. She has represented Ireland at the UNESCO International Rostrum of Composers and has been guest composer at many international festivals and conferences. In 2007 she was awarded the Arts Council of Northern Ireland artist’s residency in the Banff Centre, Canada to complete an opera. Eibhlinis Farrell is Head of Music and Creative Media at the Dundalk Institute of Technology. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Arts and a member of Aosdána (the Arts Council), where she is currently serving as a member of the Toscaireacht or governing body.

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Composer and clarinetist Jonathan Russell has received commissions from numerous ensembles, including the San Francisco Symphony, Empyrean Ensemble, ADORNO Ensemble, Woodstock Chamber Orchestra, Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, and Imani Winds. He is a member of the Edmund Welles bass clarinet quartet and the Squonk bass clarinet duo, and is co-director of the Switchboard Music Festival. He has a B.A. in Music from Harvard University and an M.M. in Music Composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He is currently a Ph.D. student in composition at Princeton University. www.jonrussellmusic.com.

Ian Wilson

Ian Wilson was born in Belfast in 1964, and obtained the first D.Phil in composition to be awarded by the University of Ulster which, in 1993, commissioned his orchestral work Rise in celebration of the tenth anniversary of its foundation. His music has been performed and broadcast on six continents at venues such as New York’s Carnegie Hall, London’s Royal Albert and Wigmore Halls, Amsterdam’s Muziekgebouw and Concertgebouw, Vienna’s Musikverein, LA’s Zipper Hall and Tokyo’s Suntory Hall and at festivals such as the BBC
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Proms, the Venice Biennale, the ISCM World Music Days, the Brighton, Cheltenham, Spitalfields and Bath Festivals and the Ultima Festival in Oslo, where *Running, Thinking, Finding for Orchestra* received the composition prize in 1991. He has written almost one hundred pieces including two chamber operas, concertos for organ, cello, alto saxophone, violin (three), marimba and piano, orchestral pieces, ten string quartets and many other chamber, vocal and multi-media works. In 1992 Ian Wilson was awarded the Macaulay Fellowship administered by the Arts Council of Ireland, and in 1998 he was elected to Aosdána, Ireland's State-sponsored body of creative artists. From 2000 to 2003 he was AHRB Research Fellow in Creative and Performing Arts at the University of Ulster and from 2009 to 2010 is An Foras Feasa post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Dundalk Institute of Technology. Since 2003 he has been director of the Sligo New Music Festival, from 2006-2009 he was Composer-in-Association with California's Camerata Pacifica ensemble and from 2010-2012 is Associate Composer with the Ulster Orchestra. His music is published by Ricordi London and Universal Edition.

**Dan Trueman**

Dan Trueman is a composer and performer, primarily with the fiddle and the laptop, sometimes together, sometimes not. His ensembles include QQQ, the Princeton Laptop Orchestra (PLOrk, which he co-founded and directs),Trollstilt, Sideband, and interface. He has worked with numerous other ensembles, including the Crash Ensemble, So Percussion, the Brentano and Daedalus String Quartets, and the American Composers Orchestra. As a fiddler, he has performed at folk festivals across the US as well as in Norway and Ireland. Upcoming projects include a piece for steel-drummer maestro Josh Quillen, a new piece for members of Crash with Irish fiddler Caoimhín O Raghallaigh, a record with Old Time fiddler extraordinaire Brittany Haas, a record of neither Anvil nor Pulley with So Percussion, and ongoing projects with Trollstilt, QQQ, and PLOrk. Dan has received grants from the Guggenheim and MacArthur Foundations (Digital Media and Learning winner), among others, and he also teaches composition at Princeton University. His music is published by Good Child Music.

**Benedict Schlepper-Connolly**

Benedict Schlepper-Connolly was born in Dublin to an Irish father and German mother. He studied composition with Donnacha Dennehy at Trinity College, Dublin, Justin Dello Joio at New York University, as well as pursuing private studies with Marc Sabat in Berlin and Larry Polansky in Hanover, New Hampshire. His studies in the United States were supported by the Bill Whelan Composition Bursary. Recent projects include collaborations with the dancer and choreographer Liv O’Donoghue; music for All the Ends of the Earth, a production founded in the music of the twelfth century composer Léonin, which premiered in New York in October; and a new work the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra. A recording of Star made by Maya Homburger and Barry Guy was released earlier this year. Schlepper-Connolly is a Director of Ergodos, the Dublin-based music company that he founded with Garrett Sholdice in 2006; Ergodos produces festivals, concerts and recordings, and runs its own ensemble, Ergodos Musicians. Benedict is also active as a writer on music and is Editor of *The Journal of Music*. He currently lives in the Hague.
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Dan Trueman is a composer and performer, primarily with the fiddle and the laptop, sometimes together, sometimes not. His ensembles include QQQ, the Princeton Laptop Orchestra (PLOrk, which he co-founded and directs), Trollstilt, Sideband, and interface. He has worked with numerous other ensembles, including the Crash Ensemble, So Percussion, the Brentano and Daedalus String Quartets, and the American Composers Orchestra. As a fiddler, he has performed at folk festivals across the US as well as in Norway and Ireland. Upcoming projects include a piece for steel-drummer maestro Josh Quillen, a new piece for members of Crash with Irish fiddler Caoimhín Ó Raghallaigh, a record with Old Time fiddler extraordinaire Brittany Haas, a record of neither Anvil nor Pulley with So Percussion, and ongoing projects with Trollstilt, QQQ, and PLOrk. Dan has received grants from the Guggenheim and MacArthur Foundations (Digital Media and Learning winner), among others, and he also teaches composition at Princeton University. His music is published by Good Child Music.

Benedict Schlepper-Connolly

Benedict Schlepper-Connolly was born in Dublin to an Irish father and German mother. He studied composition with Donnacha Dennehy at Trinity College, Dublin, Justin Dello Joio at New York University, as well as pursuing private studies with Marc Sabat in Berlin and Larry Polansky in Hanover, New Hampshire. His studies in the United States were supported by the Bill Whelan Composition Bursary. Recent projects include collaborations with the dancer and choreographer Liv O’Donoghue; music for All the Ends of the Earth, a production founded in the music of the twelfth century composer Léonin, which premiered in New York in October; and a new work the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra. A recording of Star made by Maya Homburger and Barry Guy was released earlier this year. Schlepper-Connolly is a Director of Ergodos, the Dublin-based music company that he founded with Garrett Sholdice in 2006; Ergodos produces festivals, concerts and recordings, and runs its own ensemble, Ergodos Musicians. Benedict is also active as a writer on music and is Editor of The Journal of Music. He currently lives in the Hague.