

MUSIC GAZETTE

Pomona College Music Department *Fall 2024*

vol. 33/no. 1

Department News

A new academic year has begun in the Music Department, with all that it entails: an incoming group of first-year students, classes resuming, and the start of a new concert series. Instruments that grew lonely in storage over the summer, or benefitted from a trip to the repair shop, are now in the hands of students who play them in lessons and ensembles. Reunions have been happening all around Thatcher, where people are returning to the business of studying and making music together. This past summer witnessed three retirements in the department:

_____, _____, and _____. We will miss having them as a constant presence but are glad they are all still here in Claremont!

Archiving work by _____ and _____ '20 has recently led to some exciting discoveries in Thatcher, which you can read more about here in the Gazette. Music students did fascinating projects over the summer. The Department welcomes some new and familiar faces this fall, with _____, _____, and _____ '13 taking on new faculty and concert production manager roles. The concert season began with the sounds of two-piano and two-pianist music by Genevieve Feiwen Lee and Tian Tian, followed by Celliola and friends, a faculty mariachi ensemble, Rachmaninoff piano duos, and a panoply of faculty performances at our Fête Musicale. We look forward to more music this semester, which includes a residency by Meredith Monk and a range of wonderful concerts by students, faculty, community members, and guests.

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Students

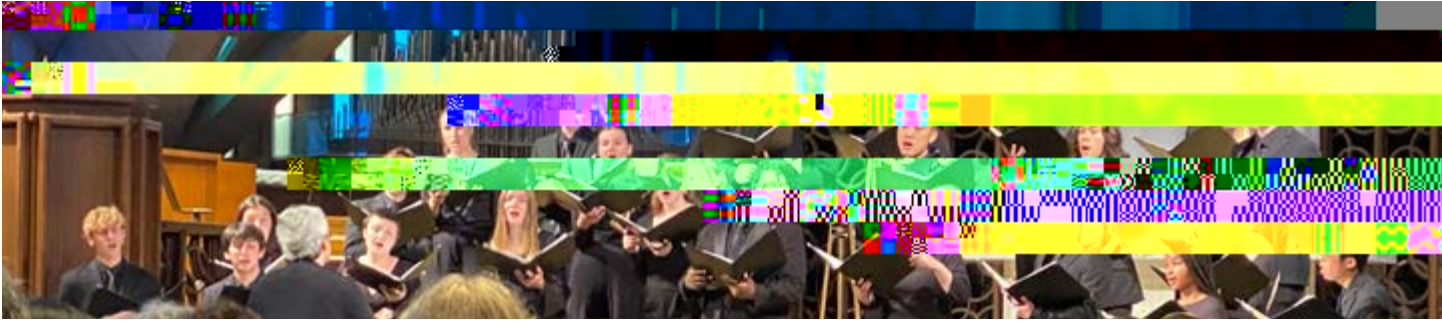
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Of Special Note

joins the department this academic year as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Music, teaching courses in composition. Described as “otherworldly and mysteriously familiar” (), his music has been performed internationally. His work is centered on mimetic relationships between found sounds, video, and acoustic instruments, creating narratives that explore timbre,

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for other academic institutions. She is also teaching a music history seminar for music majors on concert life in the nineteenth century.

Assistant Professor continued her performing on campus this fall as a featured soloist with guitarist/director Richard Savino and the period instrument chamber ensemble El Mundo, along with other appearances.

Last April performed piano quartets by Alberto Colla, Caroline Shaw, and Robert Schumann as a member of the Manzanita Quartet. The concert will be repeated at the University of Redlands. Her Mojave Trio (with sisters Maggie and Sara Parkins) was in residence at UC Davis in mid-May where they coached undergraduates and chamber ensembles, premiered graduate composer works, and performed a concert of works by Muhly, Díaz, Gao Ping, and Rebecca Clarke. The concert was repeated at Pomona.

Genevieve's March solo concert for Piano Spheres was recently posted on [YouTube](#). The gave her a glowing [review](#), writing that "the work's musical language is technically demanding, neatly compassed by Lee, replete with intense flurries and suspended at the evocatively unfinished finish." Continuing a busy month, she was a judge at Oakland University's (Michigan) 2024 Piano Day Competition for young pianists, returning to Oakland this fall to play with pianist Tian Tian in a repeat of their program of solo and duo works.

Over the summer, Genevieve returned to New York's Chamber Music Conference to coach high-level amateur musicians and perform with other faculty, participated in the Redfish Music Festival (Crescent City, CA), and traveled to the Garth Newel Music Center where she coached student groups as well as played the 2-piano works of [Rachmaninoff](#)

Emeritus Faculty

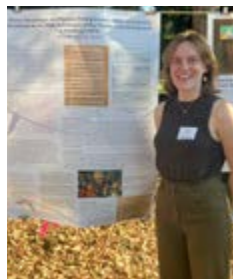
In addition to conducting the Pomona College Band, [Name] joined his Cornucopia Baroque Ensemble colleagues in March as harpsichordist for a program of music by Handel and Telemann. In May, he participated in the Editorial Board Meeting of the Hallische-Händel-Ausgabe and as one of three Vice-Presidents of the International Georg-Friedrich-Händel Gesellschaft at its annual Board Meeting. His article " [Name] Transformed: The Early History of Aristi's First Royal Academy Opera" was published in the 2024

[Name] has been busy composing and performing since his retirement. He has already presented his Celliola concert and has been working closely with Eric Lindholm on the upcoming orchestral premiere of his Cello Concerto later in the semester.

[Name], in addition to other projects, presented a recital of organ music by J.S. Bach on September 29 this year.

Student Happenings

Music major [Name] '25 worked as Professor Bandy's SURP-funded research assistant in June and July, remotely processing images of Dieterich Buxtehude's seventeenth-century manuscript sources as Professor Bandy collected them. Willa's editorial tasks lay groundwork for eventual critical editions of works that Artifex Consort plans to perform and record in the coming years: her duties included proofing manuscript details against those concordant sources in other library archives, as well as interpreting and entering musical and textual material from these sources into professional engraving software.



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Also participating in SURP projects, guided by Professor Rockwell, were [Name] '27 who explored the idea of translation in American roots music, and [Name] '25 whose independent project entitled Setting Math to Music brought together mathematics and musical composition.

[Name] '27 participated last summer as a student member of the Redfish Music Festival through a McCord/Lindstrom Music Department grant.

[Name] '25, with the support of a McCord/Lindstrom grant and the Department of German and Russian's Brueckner Summer Travel Grant, spent part of the summer in Berlin taking a course in studio recording and studying electroacoustic music.

Alumni Spotlight

The Music Department's [Name] fund supports occasional presentations by individuals who have pursued musical careers outside the usual avenues. Just such a person will be on campus on November 21 to share her thoughts about careers: [Name], Pomona class of 2004.

As a high-school senior, Whitney was planning to play Division I tennis in the Ivy League but happened to visit Pomona during a vacation. Classes were not in session and few people were around, but Whitney liked the campus and changed her plan. She first studied physics at Pomona but gravitated more and more to the Music Department, taking guitar lessons and playing trombone in the band, then taking music theory and finding a way to spend a semester abroad studying only music in Edinburgh. As a music major, she enjoyed composition assignments, ear-training labs, learning about the history of American music, and even playing percussion with the Pomona College Orchestra. On top of all that, Whitney was selected as an All-American tennis player three times!

After graduation, Whitney soon settled in Seattle, where she has found interesting and unexpected ways to make a living. While earning a Ph.D. in musicology at the University of Washington, Whitney became expert at teaching and designing online music-history courses. There was also a four-year stint as Program Manager for Amazon's Consumer Space Team. (No, it didn't involve rocket ships. The job was to find and furnish workspaces for teams of Amazon employees.) Whitney also operates side businesses as a real-estate analyst and an editor.

Whitney's doctoral research focused on the early-twentieth-century history of the Ladies Music Club of Seattle, an important organization for the promotion of music by women.

Eventually the LMC hired her to organize and digitize its archives—an experience that led to a master’s degree in library science. Whitney is now Executive Director of the LMC, overseeing programs that include sponsorship of over 50 concerts per season, placement of musical artists in elementary schools, and an annual competition for early-career performers.



Whitney with the Kodak Quartet from NYC

Whitney’s research continues. An illustrated book on the history of the LMC is forthcoming, and she’ll give a presentation at the annual Society for American Music conference in the spring. She is the proud owner of a baroque guitar built by long-time Pomona guitar teacher Jack Sanders, and she still practices. “Since I’m around performers all the time, I’m inspired to continue tinkering.” Whitney’s career has taken several turns that no one could have predicted, but, she says, “Everything I did at Pomona really set the stage for what I’ve been doing ever since.”

Alumni News

(’23) is a new member of the Arlington Chorale located in Virginia.

(’23) joined the Pacific Chorale in Orange County, California in spring 2024.

(’21) is in his fourth year at the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine. During his time there, he has worked with the school’s narrative medicine curriculum to build a session that uses music to teach active listening, leadership styles, communication skills, and empathy to providers. In doing so, he brought



together two student ensembles to perform and record a jazz and classical piece to use as learning material. As a cellist, he selected the classical piece, transposed parts, and performed with the ensemble.

(’21) began the combined M.A./Ph.D. program in Ethnomusicology at the University of California, Berkeley this fall. Her current research areas of focus include vocality, Black vernacular music, and identity/subject formation. She is spending this first semester understanding how the voice and body can be a site of resistance.

(’21) began the two-year M.M. program in Contemporary Musical Arts at New England Conservatory in Boston this fall.

(’20) sang the role of Garibaldo in Handel’s opera with Neo Opera of San Diego, CA on May 17-18, 2024. In (381 1e4 ouserA3nJ)TjTänd urrp Virginie ofB



movements from Tailleferre's 1951 opera
and works by Mozart and Brahms.

