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**Alumni Concert Series**

**2012-2013 Season**

Sara M. Snell Music Theater

Tuesday, February 12, 7:30 PM

**Matthew Dunne, Guitar**  
**Michael Meidenbauer, Trombone**

Twenty Miniatures  
1-20

Matthew Dunne

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Allegro Maestoso

Jan Koetsier  
(1911-2006)

Michael Meidenbauer  
Julie Miller, Piano

Sonata Rhapsody "The Arch"

James M. Stephenson  
(b. 1969)

Michael Meidenbauer  
Julie Miller, Piano

Capriccio for Bass Trombone and Trombone Choir

Eric Ewazen  
(b. 1954)

Shaun Cagney, Ethan Cypress, Chris Estabrook, Jonathan Dowd  
Ben Bardenett, Kyle McConnell, Thomas Bradbard, Jonathan Bintz  
Trombones

## Program Notes

### *Twenty Miniatures* Matthew Dunne 1-20

I composed the *Twenty Miniatures for Guitar* in the summer and fall of 2009, as a result of winning a grant from the Artist Foundation of San Antonio. Most of my prior guitar works for guitar were commissioned by virtuoso performers and ensembles. Consequently, I wanted to write some music that many guitarists could enjoy playing, including serious students, amateurs, and professionals. I found it invigorating to try to write short, accessible pieces that have musical depth and focus, and include some technical challenges while maintaining a level of playability that does not exclude all but professional guitarists.

The compositional style of the *Miniatures* reflects my jazz influences, interest in harmonic development, and admiration for implied counterpoint. I have tried to stay quite focused with regards to textural and rhythmic settings, relying on those to provide continuity while (hopefully!) allowing melodic and harmonic development to provide variety. There are bits of milonga, jazz waltz, folk music, even a touch of celtic influence. Programmatically, the set opens with a group of five pieces that are musically and technically the most accessible of the twenty, and concludes with a theme and four variations, which explore differing moods on the same melody.

The *Twenty Miniatures* are available from Guitar Solo Publications in a book/CD format, which includes the composer performing the work. ([www.gspguitar.com](http://www.gspguitar.com)).



**Michael Meidenbauer** is Bass Trombonist with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic, Orchestra of Northern NY and the Schenectady Symphony. He regularly performs in pit orchestras on tenor/bass trombone and tuba with national touring shows such as: *Lion King*, *South Pacific*, *White Christmas*, *Peter Pan*, *Mary Poppins*, *Anything Goes* and *Rat Pack*. Michael enjoys an active free-lance life performing in a variety of chamber music ensembles, choral festivals and serving as a low brass clinician/soloist in public school and college settings.

In addition to performing, Michael is adjunct professor with three capital region colleges. At Schenectady County Community College he is the low brass instructor, brass ensemble director, brass chamber coach and brass techniques instructor. Skidmore College duties include trombone/euphonium instructor, low brass chamber coach and concert band director. The College of St. Rose also employs Michael as a low brass instructor. Michael also maintains a 30 member private low brass studio, many of whom are invited to perform at NYSSMA Conference All-State, NYSBDA Honor Band, ESYO, NYSSSA School of Orchestral Studies, and numerous other festivals. Students are accepted to many prestigious music programs nationwide. Annually, his entire low brass studio gives back to the community during the holidays by performing together at senior citizen and residential locations. Now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, low brass caroling is a tradition for many local communities.

Michael formerly was a member of the Excelsior Trombone Ensemble, heard numerous times on national broadcasts of Public Radio's "Performance Today". He also served as Principal Bass Trombonist with the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra, performed with the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Key West Symphony Orchestra and several regional orchestras throughout the northeast and mid-west. Prior to his current teaching positions, he taught band in the New York public school system. Michael received a Bachelor of Music Degree, Music Education from the Crane School of Music and a Master of Music Degree, Trombone Performance from Indiana University.



**Matthew Dunne**, guitarist and composer, has performed and taught throughout the United States and Mexico in both the classical and jazz genres. The *San Antonio Express News* has called his playing "beautiful...elegant, superb, well crafted and sophisticated." *Classical Guitar Magazine* described his *Twenty Miniatures*: "Without exception all are extremely well-written by a highly skilled composer who understands well the intricacies, nuances and characteristics of the guitar. These pieces are some of the best and most worthy contemporary solo guitar works that I've come across in quite a while."

Dunne has been on the faculty of the University of Texas at San Antonio since 1992, where he currently directs the Guitar and Music Marketing programs. He has been a frequent collaborator with *The Los Angeles Guitar Quartet*, having composed music for three of their Telarc CDs, including the Grammy winning *Guitar Heroes*. Dunne was the winner of the *Tobin Grand Prize for Artistic Excellence* from the Artist Foundation of San Antonio, as well as a grant award that funded the composition of the *Twenty Miniatures*. His guitar works are published by GSP international and have been performed extensively throughout the U.S. and Europe. These include *Jazz Etudes for Guitar*, recorded by Bill Kanengiser on his GSP recording *Classical Cool*, and *Appalachian Summer*, composed for the 2005 GFA International Competition and recorded on a Naxos CD by Jerome Ducharme. He has recorded four compact discs; *Forget the Alamo*, a collection of his compositions for jazz combo, *Music in the Mission*, a recording of mostly 20th century Latin American music for classical guitar recorded in the historic Mission San Jose in San Antonio, *The Accidental Trio*, an acclaimed recording featuring vocalist Joan Carroll and accordionist Mark Rubinstein, and the CD included in the *Twenty Miniatures* publication.

Matthew Dunne received the DMA degree from The University of Texas at Austin, the first guitarist to receive this degree. He received the MM degree from Florida State University and the BM from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. He also studied extensively with Aaron Shearer at the North Carolina School of the Arts, and was on the faculty at that school as a sabbatical replacement in 2001.

In addition to teaching, performing, and composing, Dunne organized *The Southwest Guitar Festival* in San Antonio biennially from 1995-2009, along with the GFA Convention in 2000. This festival has included collaborative projects with many arts organizations in San Antonio and has garnered considerable critical acclaim and international recognition. It included Leo Brouwer's sole U.S. conducting appearance since the Cuban revolution, the world premier of Sergio Assad's *Interchange for Guitar Quartet and Orchestra* and James Scott Balentine's *Triquetra for Guitar, Horn, and Chamber Orchestra*, the U.S. premier of a children's guitar orchestra from Paracho, Michoacan, and the development of an international guitar competition for students of any age or level.

Matthew Dunne's compositional training and output was originally primarily in the jazz idiom, and he brings a jazz vocabulary to many of his guitar compositions. He continues to arrange and compose in jazz styles, particularly within the setting of an innovative chamber music series in San Antonio that involves collaborative efforts between professional symphony and jazz musicians. This series has had a 20 year successful history and has developed a strong local following.

In addition to the guitar works listed above, Dunne composed a programmatic piece for the guitarist Mary Akerman. This piece, titled *Through the Halocline*, was inspired by scuba diving in caves (cenotes) in Mexico's Yucatan peninsula. The 'halocline' is a layering effect generated by stratification of fresh and salt water within the Mexican cave system. It produces strange optical effects, including the illusion that divers descending immediately ahead disappear or dissolve, and unpredictable reflections of light emanating from both diver's lights and from the occasional vent to the jungle above the cave system. He also composed a piece for the highly acclaimed *Cavatina Duo* based on a Balkan folk song for their CD *The Balkan Project*, and recently a song based on an award-winning poem by a 16 year old girl titled "A Wish." That song was commissioned by the guitarist David Asbury and baritone Bruce Cain for their CD *River of Words* and has been performed frequently, including a Kennedy Center Performance.