



**Hopkins
Center for
the Arts**
at Dartmouth

For Immediate Release

Contacts:

Michael Bodel

Director of External Affairs

Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth

michael.bodel@dartmouth.edu

Rebeca Hawley

Senior Media Relations Specialist

University of Houston

rtrejo@central.uh.edu

The Hopkins Center at Dartmouth and University of Houston Moores School of Music Launch Second Music Mexico Symposium to Enhance Access to Mexican Wind Works

*Three-day Interdisciplinary Event Explores Past and Present
of Mexican Music, May 18-20, at the University of Houston*

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Hanover, NH, May 12, 2023 — For three days, starting Thursday, May 18, the Hopkins Center for the Arts (the Hop) at Dartmouth and the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston will convene musicians, performers and scholars to explore the past and future of Mexican music and its representation in wind band literature and educational settings. The second Music Mexico Symposium is part of Dartmouth's ongoing Mexican Repertoire Initiative, led by Dartmouth Director of Bands Brian Messier, to enhance access to and appreciation for Mexican artists, who are actively innovating and contributing to the evolution of wind music.

The initiative was first seeded by Messier launching the 2020 Dartmouth College Wind Ensemble Composition Competition, which aimed to encourage new works by composers living in Mexico and the United States. Since then, the initiative has grown to include the [Mexican Repertoire Collection](#), an open source, searchable, sortable database of authentic Mexican repertoire, the [Mexican Composer Incubation Coalition](#), which offers composers from Mexico

and other Latin American countries a year-long course to learn how to write for US-style wind bands. In March 2023, the Dartmouth College Wind Ensemble went on their first tour of Mexico City. Led by Messier, the ensemble advanced the initiative's goals by performing new and original Mexican works alongside local ensembles Banda Sinfónica FaM UNAM and CECAMBA. They finished the tour strong with a sold-out performance at Sala Nezahualcoyotl.

“Curiosity made me question what I knew about Mexico and, in particular, Mexican music,” says Messier. “I quickly learned that there was a void of music for Wind Band by Mexican composers, a reality that did not align with the rich musical history and culture of the nation. Here we are three years later, bringing people together from across the U.S. and Mexico to have deepening conversations about the state of music in Mexico and how it is represented in the United States and beyond, and to enjoy original Mexican works by talented young composers.”

This year as the Hop building undergoes a large-scale transformation, the symposium takes place at the University of Houston's Moores School of Music. “We are thrilled to [host the second symposium](#),” says Associate Professor of Music Education Cory Meals. “Weaving together the threads of Dartmouth's outstanding Mexican Repertoire Initiative, the University of Houston's rich history of wind band performance and pedagogy, the thriving community of University of Houston's Mariachi Pumas, and the dynamic and vibrant traditions of Oaxacan Philharmonic bands into a cohesive event where music educators, composers, conductors, scholars and musicians can perform, interact, and learn speaks to the amazing potential for this event and the depth offered by the many musics of Mexico.”

More about the Symposium

The event will combine live concerts featuring exciting works by Mexican composers—such as Juan Pablo Contreras, Nubia Jaime Donjuan and Natalia Quintanilla—by a number of ensembles including the Dartmouth College Clarinet Choir, the University of Houston Wind Ensemble and the University of Texas - El Paso Chamber Ensemble, among others. The panel discussions and immersive workshops feature prominent experts in the field of Mexican culture, music and wind band repertoire. Symposium registration includes tickets to attend the full schedule of events in person.

Link to symposium registration:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=vboLF_CikEytSw6PDwxCWfZHI0dGofVDvRMykv5GRylUM1pKUFkzWE03M1pUV0JIQUITOEwzODdMRSQIQCN0PWcu

Concert Tickets

Music Mexico Opening Concert

May 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Dartmouth College Clarinet Choir, under the direction of Dr. Brian Messier, and Borderlands Ensemble, led by Johanna Lundy, will be performing at 7:30 pm in the Dudley Recital Hall at the University of Houston. The event will feature the world premiere of works by renowned Mexican composers Jorge Ortega Sosa, Charles Daniels Torres, Rodrigo Martinez Torres, and Nubia Jaime Donjuan.

<https://kgmcboboxofficemusic.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=1467&r=06fcbcb2d5c4cd5bbc32e5b2955c305>

Music Mexico Concert II

May 19, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

The University of Texas - El Paso Chamber Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Andrew Hunter and Dr. Brandon Houghtalen, and the Krimmel Intermediate Symphonic Band, led by Stetson Begin, are set to take the stage in a highly anticipated concert. The event will feature the world premiere of works by Mexican composers Fabrizio Herrera and Oscar Alcalá, and the American premieres of works by Natalia Quintanilla and Adalberto Avalos Cruz.

<https://kgmcboboxofficemusic.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=1468&r=d10c6c6af0d34d5d9376dfea7f16a965>

Music Mexico Concert III

May 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

The University of Houston Wind Ensemble, led by David Bertman, and the Mariachi Pumas, under the direction of Jose Longoria, are set to perform at an exciting concert. The event will feature premieres of works by renowned Mexican composers Nubia Jaime Donjuan, Erick Tapia, José Gurria-Cárdenas, and Latin Grammy-nominated composer Juan Pablo Contreras. The concert will culminate in a thrilling performance by the Mariachi Pumas that promises to electrify the audience. Don't miss this unique opportunity to experience the best of Mexican music and culture.

<https://kgmcboboxofficemusic.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=1469&r=25f262447f1d40e2bc9d673e1e0b8220>

About The Hopkins Center for the Arts

Situated on the Green of Dartmouth College, the Hopkins Center serves as a hub of performing arts and film for the College and Upper Valley. A leader in experiential education, it is dedicated to bringing together visiting artists, resident artists, student ensembles and academic departments to produce and present work that represents diverse voices and perspectives and engages with a wide spectrum of artistic forms and ideas. It acts as a laboratory for creative experimentation and an instigator for exploring the connections among different artistic disciplines, the Dartmouth curriculum, and the wider community.

The Hopkins Center for the Arts is currently in the process of a major transformation, which will include the creation of 70,000 square feet of newly functional space that will allow the Center to further develop its program and better serve its student and community audiences. To learn more about the project, please visit our [website](#).

About Dartmouth

Founded in 1769, Dartmouth is a member of the Ivy League and consistently ranks among the world's greatest academic institutions. Dartmouth has forged a singular identity for combining its deep commitment to outstanding undergraduate liberal arts and graduate education with distinguished research and scholarship in the Arts and Sciences and its four leading graduate schools—the Geisel School of Medicine, the Guarini School of Graduate and Advanced Studies, Thayer School of Engineering, and the Tuck School of Business.

About the Moores School of Music

The Moores School of Music at the University of Houston's Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts provides an outstanding comprehensive music education on the undergraduate and graduate levels, overseen by a faculty and staff second to none; continues to develop recognition of the school at the local, national and international levels in order to attract students of the highest caliber; provides the University community and the city with the highest quality performances that will both educate and entertain.

About the University of Houston

The University of Houston is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university recognized with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter for excellence in undergraduate education. UH serves the globally competitive Houston and Gulf Coast Region by providing world-class faculty, experiential learning and strategic industry partnerships. Located in the nation's fourth-largest city and one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse regions in the country, UH is a federally designated Hispanic- and Asian-American-Serving institution with enrollment of more than 47,000 students.

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