

Wednesday, April 25, 2018  
7:30 p.m.

Plaza Hotel Ballroom  
Las Vegas, New Mexico

## The French Connection

Mary Kay Robinson, flute  
Ronald Maltais, piano

Syrinx	Debussy (1862-1918)
Morceau de Concours	Faure (1845-1924)
Minuet and Dance of the Blessed Spirits ( <i>Orphée et Eurydice</i> )	Gluck (1714-1787)
Jeux d'Eau	Ravel (1875-1937)
Duo for Flute and Piano	Copland (1900-1990)
I Flowing	
III Lively, with bounce	

### I N T E R M I S S I O N

Pastel in Four Parts (New Mexico Premiere)	Simon (1916-2012)
Freely	
Allegro	
Moderato	
Allegro moderato	
Sonata for Flute and Piano	Poulenc (1899-1963)
Allegro malinconico	
Cantilena	
Presto giocoso	

presented by  
**Meadow City Academy of Music**  
This event is part of the Castañeda Concert Series

**Ronald Maltais, Director**

**Please join us at El Zocalo Gallery for a reception after the performance**

## About the Artists

Internationally acclaimed flutist and winner of numerous competitions, **Mary Kay Robinson** has risen to national prominence as a versatile musician, balancing roles as soloist, orchestral and chamber musician, teacher, coach and consultant. She has been a featured soloist at Severance Hall with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, the Southern Tier Symphony (NY), the Akron Symphony and the New Hampshire Music Festival Orchestra. She is a frequent guest artist with the orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Buffalo, Toledo, and Kansas City. As a visionary and entrepreneur, Ms. Robinson founded the Greater Cleveland Flute Society and the prize winning mixed chamber ensemble *Panorámicos*, whose three CDs have garnered great critical acclaim. Ms. Robinson has commissioned, premiered, and recorded many new works featuring the Flute, Piccolo and Alto Flute in solo and chamber capacities, as well as mixed instrumentation chamber music with voice. With 25 years of experience in the Classical Music sector, she has built an extensive professional network, facilitating her work as consultant for Foundations, Individual Artists, Performing Arts and Philanthropic Organizations. Certified in Executive Leadership through the Case Western Reserve University Weatherhead School of Management, Ms. Robinson's Executive Coaching practice focuses on leadership, holistic performance and career coaching with professionals and college students, utilizing the best research in performance and sports psychology, building towards excellence and success through health and wellness. "Lustrous tone,"..."dazzling virtuosity...a hugely talented and exciting soloist" critics heralded of her New York solo debut, where she performed two concerti on two different instruments on the same program.

**Ronald Maltais**, pianist, composer and singer, served as the director of music at the United World College USA from 2001 to 2016. He became involved with the piano at the age of four, beginning formal lessons at age eight. Originally from Southern New Hampshire, his intense studies with Maurice Hoffman led him to pursue degrees taken at New England Conservatory (piano performance) and Boston University (music composition). Maltais also pursued vocal training and he has devoted significant time to choral directing and artistic direction. His teachers included Jung Ja Kim, Katja Andy, Anthony di Bonaventura, Charles Fussel and Lukas Foss. His Meditation for Viola and Strings was conducted by Foss in 1998. Maltais's travels have led to engagements as a musician and lecturer in several US states and in India, Turkey, South Africa and Peru. His work Dark Woods was composed for Jack Glatzer; performed in 2016 at the premiere Light Spectrum concert (Dwan Light Sanctuary) on the UWC campus. Maltais is presently composing a string quartet (for the Pleiades String Quartet), a piano concerto and an opera based on the life of Camille Claudel.

The **Meadow City Academy of Music**, founded by artistic director Ronald Maltais in the spring of 2017 has set out to provide excellent musical/dance training and performances for the Las Vegas, New Mexico community. The **Castañeda Concert Series**, launched in September 2016 seeks to present professional New Mexico musicians and dancers in venues throughout our city. As we proceed in our second season through tonight's performance we are proud to announce that the Castañeda Concert Series has featured 31 New Mexico artists during since the beginning of 2017. Meadow City Academy of Music events included 5 concerts, 3 Flamenco shows, 10 dance classes and 3 theater screenings at 6 Las Vegas venues. Due to the generosity of our donors, we are now beginning to offer subsidized music lessons for Las Vegas youth.

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### Acknowledgements

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To become a sponsor or donor of the Meadow City Academy of Music/Castañeda Concert Series please contact Ronald Maltais at 505-718-6597 or via e-mail at [remalt@q.com](mailto:remalt@q.com). The Las Vegas Arts Council (NM) is proud to be the fiscal sponsor for the Meadow City Academy of Music/Castañeda Concert Series. LVAC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible as allowed by law.

## Program Notes

**Syrinx** (1913) was originally conceived as incidental music for a play. This solo work evokes the amorous pursuit of the nymph Syrinx by the god Pan. Debussy allows the performer generous interpretive freedom.

**Morceau de Concours** (1898) is a heartfelt work Faure composed on Bastille day (a holiday away from his duties as Director of the Paris Conservatoire) which remained unknown until it surfaced in Brussels in 1970. According to the work's editor Anabel Hulme Brief, the composer "produced a work of such simplicity, sincerity and freshness as to be irresistible."

**Minuet and Dance of the Blessed Spirits** (1762) is an instrumental interlude, taken from Gluck's operatic masterpiece *Orphée et Eurydice*. Gluck set out to reform traditional opera by rejecting excessive melodic decorations, seeking a simpler musical style. In this work one can imagine the flute representing the musical equivalent to one of his expressive vocal arias.

**Jeux d'Eau** (1901) was initially inspired by a work of similar title by Franz Liszt. The title Jeux d'Eau is literally translated as "playing water." Ravel described this music as being "inspired by the noise of water and by the musical sounds which makes one hear the sprays of water, the cascades and the brooks."

**Duo for Flute and Piano** (1971) was composed on commission from a group of people and friends of the late William Kincaid, for many years the legendary principal flute soloist of the Philadelphia orchestra. Copland conceived the work in three parts. This performance will present the opening and concluding movements.

**Pastel in Four Parts** (2008) was composed for Mary Kay Robinson. Originally from Missouri, William Simon's unique compositional style is evident in this suite for flute and piano. The four short and widely contrasting pieces reflect Simon's rich musical life which was highly influenced by jazz. Like Copland and Poulenc, Simon studied with Nadia Boulanger at the American School in Fontainebleau. This performance is the New Mexico premiere of this composition.

**Sonata for Flute and Piano** (1957) was composed for Jean-Pierre Rampal and premiered by Rampal with Poulenc at the piano. The composer had been planning to compose a work for flute and piano for some years, but other projects delayed his plans for this composition. The work quickly became a staple of the flute repertoire and every measure reflects Poulenc's individual style.

-Ronald Maltais



**Nadia Boulanger**

**1887-1979**

**The Knabe Concert Grand Piano**

The piano being used in tonight's performance was purchased by Allan Affeldt for the Plaza Hotel Ballroom in 2016. The instrument was made in Baltimore in 1909 during the heyday of American piano manufacturing. The greatest companies - Knabe, Steinway, Chickering, Mason and Hamlin - competed with each other but Steinway is the only company to survive, still producing pianos today. In the early 1900s Knabe was the choice of the Metropolitan Opera and many important pianists of the day. Meadow City Academy of Music is working with the Plaza Hotel to restore this instrument to its full potential. Paul Dixon and Kevin Zoernig are the technicians involved in this ambitious project.