

JACOBSEN

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERIES 2025–26

EST. 1890
UNIVERSITY of
**PUGET
SOUND**
School of Music

Puget Sound Piano Trio

*Maria Sampen, violin; Alistair MacRae, cello;
and Ronaldo Rolim, piano*



*Featuring special guest
Allison Pohl, soprano*

Tuesday, March 24

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets required, free for students



JACOBSEN SERIES

Established in 1984, the Jacobsen Series features performances by School of Music faculty members, students, alumni, and guest artists for the university and the community. The series is named in honor of Leonard Jacobsen, professor of piano and chair of the piano department at Puget Sound from 1932 to 1965 and consists of theme-related concerts presented between September and April each academic year.

The Jacobsen Series Scholarship Fund awards annual music scholarships to outstanding student performers and scholars. This fund is sustained entirely by season subscribers and individual ticket sales.

University of Puget Sound wishes to recognize and thank our many patrons whose support has assisted worthy students and has contributed to this successful series.

JACOBSEN SERIES: PUGET SOUND PIANO TRIO

Maria Sampen, violin; Alistair MacRae, cello; and Ronaldo Rolim, piano
Featuring Allison Pohl, soprano

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

PROGRAM

Sotto Voce (2012).....Marilyn Shrude
 "...through the open door" (b. 1946)
 "...half willing, half reluctant"
 "...scarce knowing if we wish to go or stay"

Seven Romances on.....Dmitri Shostakovich
 Poems by Alexander Blok, Op.127 (1906–1975)
 Song of Ophelia
 Gamayun, the Bird of Prophecy
 We Were Together
 The City Sleeps
 The Storm
 Secret Signs
 Music

Allison Pohl, soprano

INTERMISSION

Piano Trio in E-flat major, Op.70 No.2.....Ludwig van Beethoven
 Poco sostenuto — Allegro ma non troppo (1770–1827)
 Allegretto
 Allegretto ma non troppo
 Finale: Allegro

***All are invited to a reception following the program in the
Schneebeck Concert Hall lobby.***

BIOGRAPHIES

MARIA SAMPEN, violin, enjoys a vibrant musical career as a soloist, chamber musician, recording artist and teacher. Equally at home with repertoire ranging from classical to avant-garde to popular styles, Sampen delights audiences with her eclectic programs, her passionate performance style and her highly expressive playing. She performs in Europe, Asia, Canada, and all over the United States.

As a soloist and chamber musician, Sampen has performed in prominent venues including Carnegie Hall Weill Recital Hall, Symphony Space (NY), Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center, Town Hall (Seattle), the Chicago Cultural Center, and the Detroit Institute of Art. She is a frequent guest recitalist and masterclass clinician at universities and conservatories throughout the world. Highlights in U.S. include performances and residencies at the University of Michigan, Cornell University, the Eastman School of Music, the Boston Conservatory, the University of Oregon, the University of Minnesota, Bowling Green State University, Vanderbilt, and the University of Washington. She has also appeared as a guest soloist and master class clinician at the Sichuan Conservatory in Chengdu, China; the University of British Columbia, Vancouver; the Akademie of Art in Szczecin, Poland; the Trento Conservatory of Music, Italy; and has given performances in the Canary Islands (Spain), Scotland, Austria, and Singapore.

Sampen is a passionate supporter of contemporary music, and has commissioned and given the world premieres of over 50 new works. This includes three concertos for violin and orchestra (composers David Glenn, Marilyn Shrude, and Robert Hutchinson) and an impressive body of chamber works, including collaborations with composers such as William Bolcom, William Albright, Bright Sheng, Marcos Balter, Andrew Mead, Robert Morris, Jennifer Higdon, Korine Fujiwara, Kenji Bunch, Nico Muhly, and Forrest Pierce. Sampen has released recordings on AMP Records, Block M Records, Perspectives in New Music/Open Space and Origin Records. Sampen was a member of the new music group, Brave New Works from 2000–2020.

Sampen is currently violinist in the Puget Sound Piano Trio. In addition to their regular concert season in the Pacific Northwest, the trio's recent engagements include concert tours in Alaska, New Jersey, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania; and performances of the Beethoven Triple Concerto with the Northwest Sinfonietta Orchestra under the direction of conductor, Mei-Ann Chen.

In 2019, the University of Puget Sound awarded Sampen the Kristine Bartanen Research Award for remarkable accomplishments in research and professional development. She is also a Sigma Alpha Iota Distinguished National Arts Associate.

Sampen is Professor of Violin and Chair of the String Department at the University of Puget Sound. She has twice received the University of Puget Sound's Thomas A. Davis Teaching Award for excellence in teaching. Her students are frequent winners of local concerto competitions and the Washington State Solo and Ensemble Competition and have won top awards from the Music Teacher National Association Competition, the Black Violin Foundation, and the American String Teacher Washington State Competition. Sampen has taught on the faculties of the Brevard Music Festival in North Carolina, the Interlochen Center for the Arts, the Icicle Creek Chamber Music Institute in Washington and the Hilton Head Chamber Music Festival in South Carolina.

Sampen graduated with highest honors from the University of Michigan (Bachelor of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts) and Rice University (Masters of Music). Her major teachers include Paul Kantor, Kenneth Goldsmith and Paul Makara. She also performed and studied at the Mozarteum Sommerakademie, the Banff Centre for the Arts, the Musicorda Festival, the Carnegie Hall Professional Training Workshop, and as a fellow at both the Aspen and Tanglewood Music Festivals.

Cellist **ALISTAIR MACRAE** is the Cordelia Wikarski-Miedel Artist in Residence at University of Puget Sound School of Music and the cellist of the Puget Sound Piano Trio. He has appeared as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral principal throughout North America and in Europe, Asia, South America, and the Middle East. He serves as principal cello for both the Princeton Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Tacoma; performs with his wife, soprano Allison Pohl,

in the voice and cello duo Soprello; and is a member of the Artist Faculty at the Brevard Music Center.

His playing has been praised for its "rich sound and lyrical phrasing" (Palm Beach Daily News) and his performances have been featured in radio broadcasts across the United States on WQXR, WWFM, WDAV, WCQS, KING FM, and Vermont Public Radio. As a chamber musician and recitalist, he has performed in Carnegie Hall's Zankel and Weill Halls; at Palm Beach's Kravis Center for the Performing Arts; in New York City chamber music venues such as BargeMusic, Merkin Hall, the 92nd St Y, and Miller Theatre at Columbia University; at numerous colleges and universities; and on concert series throughout the United States. He has appeared on several series presented by Carnegie Hall; as a member of groups such as the Richardson Chamber Players, Berkshire Bach Ensemble, and Fountain Ensemble; and at festivals such as the Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival, Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival, Monadnock Music, and Music Festival of the Hamptons.

Diverse musical experiences enrich his performances and teaching. He has appeared as a concerto soloist with the Asheville Symphony, Princeton Symphony, Northwest Sinfonietta, Rainier Symphony, Bombay Chamber Orchestra, and at the Brevard Music Center. His past projects include recordings of chamber music by Kodaly, Telemann, and Laurie Altman; music for The Discovery Channel; and ensemble albums of music by Mozart and Scott Joplin. His eclectic collaborations have found him on stage with Paul Taylor Dance Company, the Westminster Choir, tap dancer Savion Glover, jazz bassist Ben Wolfe, the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra, and the rock band Scorpions.

A passionate advocate for new music, MacRae has commissioned and premiered new works for both solo cello and chamber ensembles, collaborating closely with composers. He has given premiere performances of 21st-century pieces at Princeton, Yale, Columbia, and Harvard Universities; and has performed his own compositions and arrangements in the United States and Canada.

In his role on the University of Puget Sound School of Music faculty, he teaches and mentors students in cello and chamber music. Formerly, he also served on the faculties of Princeton University,

The College of New Jersey, and the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College - CUNY. Since 2009, he has spent his summers performing and teaching at the Brevard Music Center.

With “a special ability to present touching interpretations” (El Norte), Brazilian pianist **RONALDO ROLIM** has performed extensively over four continents, in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Zurich’s Tonhalle, London’s Wigmore Hall, the Great Hall of the Liszt Academy in Budapest, and Beijing’s National Centre for the Performing Arts. Acclaimed for his “consummate elegance” (*New York Concert Review*) and “mastery of phrasing and dynamics” (*Oberbaselbieter Zeitung*), he has captured top prizes at numerous prestigious international competitions, including Géza Anda, James Mottram, Bösendorfer, San Marino, Lyon, and Teresa Carreño.

Rolim’s latest album on Odradek Records, ***Szymanowski – The Wartime Triptychs***, devoted to the programmatic works the Polish composer wrote during World War I, prompted *Diapason* magazine to consider him “an ideal guide to [Szymanowski’s] magic world” and *Classica* magazine to hail his “clear but thunderous pianism.”

Recent and upcoming guest soloist performances include Ravel’s G major Concerto and Falla’s *Noches en los Jardines de España* with the Minas Gerais Philharmonic, Liszt’s Concerto No.2 with Symphony Tacoma, Rachmaninoff’s Concerto No. 4 with the Porto Alegre Symphony, and Beethoven’s Concerto No. 5 with the Louisiana Philharmonic and on a tour of Germany with Ukraine’s Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra. Other recent engagements include performances at the Septembre Musical Festival in Montreux, Switzerland, chamber music with members of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, a tour of Poland with violinist Emanuel Salvador, a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Enrique Granados with performances of the composer’s complete Goyescas in venues in the U.S., Europe, and Brazil, and an appearance in Bernstein’s *Age of Anxiety* in the Bernstein Centenary Festival hosted by the Minas Gerais Philharmonic. The 2024–25 season will see him on tour throughout the United States, Europe and Brazil in solo and chamber music recitals.

Rolim has performed with ensembles such as the Tonhalle Orchester Zürich, Musikkollegium Winterthur, Concerto Budapest, Phoenix Symphony, European Philharmonic Orchestra of Switzerland, Symphony Orchestra of the St. Petersburg State Academic Capella, and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as many of Brazil's foremost ensembles.

A frequent presence at international music festivals, he has been featured in solo recitals and chamber music performances at Ravinia, Rio Folle Journée, Accademia Musicale Chigiana, Musikdorf Ernen, Académie Musicale de Villecroze, and the Kingston, Walla Walla and Crescent City Chamber Music Festivals. Broadcasts of his live performances have been featured in radio stations in Brazil (Radios MEC and Cultura), the U.S. (WQXR New York, WRTI Philadelphia, WFMT Chicago, Classical KING Seattle and WBJC Baltimore), and Europe (Radios SWR 2, BBC 3, Rai 3, and France Musique). He also has been featured in several television programs in his home country, including *Brasil Piano Solo*, a series of recitals dedicated exclusively to Brazilian music, presented by the TV Cultura Channel. He also has participated in the documentary *Magda Tagliaferro: A World Inside The Piano*, in which he performed music of Scriabin.

A passionate advocate of chamber music, Rolim is the newest member of the Puget Sound Piano Trio, which for 35 years has developed extensive concert activity in the United States while being strongly committed to community engagement and educational endeavors. He was a founding member of Trio Appassionata, which during 15 years of activities cultivated multiple projects such as tours of the U.S., Europe, Brazil and China, and the release of the album ***gone into night are all the eyes***, dedicated to piano trios by American composers. Rolim regularly performs in duo with his wife, pianist Xiaohui Yang, and collaborates with ensembles such as the Aizuri, Jasper, Guimarães and São Paulo string quartets. He has performed with members of the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony, the Brazilian Symphony, Ensemble Connect, and Bronx Arts Ensemble.

Rolim began musical studies with his mother, Miriam Pregolato, and gave his first public performance at the age of 4. He holds degrees from the Magda Tagliaferro School in São Paulo, the Peabody Institute in Baltimore and the Yale School of Music in New Haven.

Rolim resides in Tacoma, Wash., where he is assistant professor of piano and director of keyboard studies at the University of Puget Sound.

Soprano **ALLISON POHL'S** vivacious stage presence and spirited singing have inspired enthusiastic responses across three continents. Her work has received positive reviews for her “sparkling voice” (outerstage.com) and “exuberant” performances (Opera News). Of her performance in *L'elisir d'amore* at Virginia Opera, The Washington Post wrote: “Allison Pohl stood out with a ripe, flavorful soprano and ample character.”

Her recent engagements include Violetta in *La Traviata* at Opera Bend, Social Worker/Reporter in *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* at Seattle Opera, Stella in *A Streetcar Named Desire* at Tacoma Opera, and Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro* at Vashon Opera; multiple solo recitals, Handel's *Messiah* with Symphony Tacoma, chamber concerts curated by Maestro Keith Lockhart of the Boston Pops, performances with Seattle Chamber Music Society and Brevard Music Center Orchestra; return appearances at Bremerton Symphony, Vashon Opera, and the Listen Live at Lunch concert series; and her debut with Wenatchee Valley Symphony.

In 2025–2026, Pohl will perform in the United States, Spain, and Portugal, including a solo recital for Second City Chamber Series in Tacoma; and debut as a stage director in Vashon Opera's production of *Hänsel und Gretel*.

Pohl has appeared with opera companies and orchestras throughout the United States, including Seattle Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, New York City Opera, Virginia Opera, Opera Saratoga, Tacoma Opera, Vashon Opera, Opera in the Heights, Opera Providence, Opera on the James, Seattle Symphony, Canton Symphony, Symphony Tacoma, Bremerton Symphony, Seattle Philharmonic, Garden State Philharmonic, Harmonia Seattle, and SkyOpera; and has been a soloist for tours of Italy, China, and Canada.

Favorite roles recently performed include both Countess and Susanna in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Tatyana in *Eugene Onegin*, Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte*, Adina in *L'elisir d'amore*, Blanche de la Force

in *Dialogues des Carmélites*, Nannetta in *Falstaff*, Norina in *Don Pasquale*, Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Gretel in *Hänsel und Gretel*, Musetta in *La Bohème*, and Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*.

As a member of Soprello, Pohl has performed chamber music across North America with cellist Alistair MacRae. She is Artistic Director of Vashon Opera, a Seattle Opera Career Grant recipient, winner of the Seattle Philharmonic Concerto Competition, Artist Faculty at Brevard Music Center, and a graduate of SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Music and Boston University.

UPCOMING SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS

All events are free unless noted otherwise. Most performances are broadcast at pugetsound.edu/schneebecklive. * Tickets available at tickets.pugetsound.edu, in the Logger Store, or at the door.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Jazz Orchestra

Jeff Chang, director

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Adelphian Concert Choir

Steven Zopfi, conductor; Maria Sampen, violin; Jinshil Yi '14, piano

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Keyboard Series: Yevgeny Yontov, piano

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tickets required, free for students

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

Piano Master Class with Yevgeny Yontov

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

Jacobsen Series: Faculty recital featuring Tracy Doyle, flute, with special guests

Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Tickets required, free for students

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Wind Ensemble/Concert Band

Gerard Morris, conductor

Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Ticketed events are not streamed live.

All listings are subject to change. For the most current information about upcoming arts events and lectures, visit pugetsound.edu/events.

Puget Sound is committed to being accessible to all people. If you have questions about event accessibility, please contact 25Live@pugetsound.edu, or visit pugetsound.edu/accessibility.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that this event takes place on the ancestral territory of the Puyallup Tribe and the Lushootseed-speaking people, whose relationship with the land continues to this day.

We respectfully acknowledge and honor the history and presence of Indigenous students, staff, and faculty here at Puget Sound. We who are guests on this land offer our gratitude for the opportunity to make music together here.

The School of Music strives to recognize, include, and respect all of the peoples and musical traditions that make up our community.

The School of Music at University of Puget Sound, situated within a nationally recognized liberal arts university, prepares students to be broad-minded, creative, arts-aware social leaders. We attract highly engaged student musicians and empower them to create the diverse musical offerings and effective educational programs of the future.

From the classroom to the concert hall, we cultivate students' self-expression, cultural competency, and critical engagement. Through a wide variety of public offerings and a vibrant Community Music program, the School of Music enriches the cultural life of both the Puget Sound campus and surrounding communities.

Community Music, a division of the School of Music, welcomes people of all ages and skill levels to participate in music lessons and classes throughout the year.
pugetsound.edu/communitymusic | 253.879.3575

