

NYUAD Music Program x The Office of Global Education

# Syncopated Musings

with  
Marilyn Nonken, piano

March 11

7:30 PM

The Blue Hall

The Arts Center @ NYU Abu Dhabi

Open to NYUAD Community  
and By Invitation Only



# PROGRAM

*Fantasia-Burlesque (1932)*

**Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)**

*Sun-Flower Slow Drag (1901)*

**Scott Joplin (c.1868-1917) and Scott Hayden (1882-1915)**

*Solace (1909)*

**Scott Joplin (c.1868-1917)**

*The Children's Corner (1908)*

I. "Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum"

II. "Jimbo's Lullaby"

III. "Serenade for the Doll"

IV. "The Snow Is Dancing"

V. "The Little Shepherd"

VI. "Golliwogg's Cakewalk"

**Claude Debussy (1862-1918)**

*Heliotrope Bouquet - A Slow Drag Two Step (1907)*

**Scott Joplin (c.1868-1917) and Louis (1882-1908)**

*Pleasant Moments - A Ragtime Waltz (1905)*

**Scott Joplin (c.1868-1917)**

*La danse, selon Matisse (2018)*

**François Meïmoun (b. 1979)**

**Marilyn Nonken, Piano**



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# MARILYN NONKEN

Upon her recital debut, pianist Marilyn Nonken was recognized as “a determined protector of important music” (*New York Times*). Since then, she has become a sought-after interpreter of 20th- and 21st-century music noted for transcendent performances: “Her voicings are exquisite, her pedaling throughout is a model to be studied, and, when necessary, her virtuosity is equaled only by the insight and passion with which every piece is imbued.” (*Fanfare*)

Her discography reveals an wide-ranging musical sensibility, including composers associated with spectral music, the New Complexity, the New York School, and ragtime, and she has toured with Charles Ives’s “Concord” Sonata as well as the complete piano music of Arnold Schönberg, Pierre Boulez, and Ruth Crawford Seeger. Her performances have taken her to venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Guggenheim Museum, Neue Galerie, (le) Poisson Rouge, and Roulette (New York), IRCAM and the Théâtre Bouffe du Nord (Paris), the ABC (Melbourne), Logos (Ghent), Instituto Chileno-Norteamericano (Santiago), Chicago Cultural Center and Symphony Center, Barnes Foundation (Philadelphia), Phillips Collection (Washington DC), Menil Collection and Rothko Chapel (Houston), and conservatories and universities around the world. Festival appearances include the Festival d’Automne (Paris), Musica Nova (Helsinki), Aspects des Musiques d’Aujourd’hui (Caën), ATEMPO (Caracas), New Music Days (Ostrava), Musikhøst (Odense), When Morty Met John, Making Music, Works and Process, and Composers Now (New York), American Sublime (Philadelphia), The Festival of New





American Music (Sacramento), Music on the Edge (Pittsburgh), Puerto Piano (San Juan), Piano Festival Northwest (Portland), NUNC! (Chicago), Unruly Music (Milwaukee), the William Kapell International Piano Festival and Competition; this summer, she is pleased to perform and teach at Time of Music/ Musiiken Aika (Vitaarsaari).

**A** Steinway artist, she records for New World, Mode, Lovely Music, Albany, Metier, Divine Art, Hanging Bell, Harrison House, Innova, CRI, BMOP Sound, New Focus, Kairos, Tzadik, and Bridge, and is the grateful dedicatee of works by composers such as Nina C. Young, Michael Finnissy, Liza Lim, Tristan Murail, Christopher Trapani, and David Rakowski. 2023 will see the release of the complete works for piano and violoncello by Morton Feldman, with Stephen Marotto (Mode), a recording which includes unpublished works as well as the epic *Patterns in a Chromatic Field*.

**A**fter attending the Eastman School of Music, Marilyn Nonken received a Ph.D. in musicology from Columbia University. Her monograph *The Spectral Piano: From Liszt, Scriabin & Debussy to the Digital Age* (Cambridge, 2015) was received as “a screaming success” (Bob Gilmore, *Tempo*), and *Identity and Diversity in New Music: The New Complexities* (Routledge, 2019) received similar acclaim. Professor of Music and Music Education at New York University’s Steinhardt School, where she is also Chair of the Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions, Marilyn lives on New York’s historic Lower East Side with her husband, two

children, and three cats.

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