



School of **MUSIC**

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA / COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Viola Day 2025

Jorge A Peña, Guest Artist Recital

Lauren Hodges, viola
Evan Mitchell, piano

Saturday, September 13
5:10 p.m.
MUB 101

Program

Sonata in E-flat, Op. 120, No. 2

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

- I. Allegro amabile*
- II. Allegro appassionato*
- III. Andante con moto*

Jorge Peña, viola
Evan Mitchell, piano

Fantasiestücke, Op. 73

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

- I. Zart und mit Ausdruck*
- II. Lebhaft, leicht*
- III. Rasch und mit Feuer*

Lauren Hodges, viola
Evan Mitchell, piano

Moonlight Journey for two violas

Paul Coletti
(b. 1959)

Jorge Peña and Lauren Hodges, viola

Concertstück

George Enesco
(1881-1955)

Jorge Pena, viola
Evan Mitchell, piano

Artist Biographies

Jorge Peña has established himself as a violist with a reputation for presenting outstanding innovative programs in chamber music. A former member of the [Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra](#) and currently at the [Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra](#). Honduran born, Jorge Peña graduated from Columbus State University and the Peabody Conservatory of Music with degrees in performance and chamber music. He studied with Curtis Institute President Roberto Diaz, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra principal viola Richard Field, and Julliard quartet member Earl Carlys. "He expresses himself with courage and security in an instrument that few stand out like him in the international context." – El Deber newspaper.

Recognized as an impeccable soloist, he has appeared as soloist in North, South and Central America and Europe. Chamber music holds a special place in his career, together with his wife, Korean cellist Jin Kim-Peña they are founders and play in the Movado Quartet, he often collaborates with highly sought out ensembles like the Ritz Chamber Players, the Dover Quartet and the Diaz Trio.

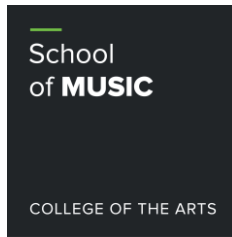
Founder and Artistic Director of the St. Augustine Music Festival, the largest free music festival in the US held in the oldest US city during last two weeks of June. www.staugustinemusicfestival.org. He organizes and travels with the SAMF Chamber Players and has made appearances at the Midwest Clinic, National Gallery of Art, the Virginia Chamber Orchestra, the Atlanta Virtuosi, Tanglewood Music Center, Grand Teton Music Festival, St. Augustine Music Festival (SAMF), Island Concert Ass., the [Ritz Chamber Players](#), Valdosta SU, UNF and JU.

He also serves as the General Manager of the Coastal Symphony of Georgia in Brunswick Ga.

Lauren Burns Hodges, "a distinguished violist with a refined, mellow tone" (American Record Guide), is currently Associate Professor of Viola at the University of Florida where she also coordinates and teaches Music Appreciation classes. For six years prior, she was Lecturer in Viola at Valdosta State University, Principal Viola of the Valdosta Symphony, violist of the Azalea String Quartet, and Director of the South Georgia String Project. She has performed and given masterclasses and body awareness workshops at universities, music festivals, and Viola Day events throughout the country and abroad in Italy, Austria, France, and China. Dr. Hodges has regularly presented, taught masterclasses, or performed at national American Viola Society Festivals, Primrose International Viola Competition and Festivals, the College Music Society Southern and National Conferences, the 47th International Viola Congress, and FMEA and ASTA conferences. During the summer, she teaches and performs at festivals such as MasterWorks, Varna International Music Festival, and the Saint Augustine Music Festival. Twice elected as a board member at large for the American Viola Society, she was also acting secretary. Passionate about promoting the viola and engaging with the community, she hosts an annual viola day at UF. www.laurenburnshodges.com

Pianist **Evan Mitchell's** recent highlights include solo performances on the prestigious Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts series (Chicago), at Merkin Concert Hall (NYC), and at several major venues in Shanghai; concerti with the symphony orchestras of Dallas and Fort Worth; and recitals with such major figures as double bassist Gary Karr, flutists Leone Buyse and Jim Walker, and clarinetist Corrado Giuffredi. He has made repeat appearances on several Cliburn series, and both performs and serves on the Board of Mount Vernon Music.

Dr. Mitchell received the DMA degree from Texas Christian University, and MM and BM degrees from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. His principal teachers have included John Owings, Arnaldo Cohen, and the late José Feghali. He currently serves as Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Florida School of Music. Evan Mitchell is a Steinway Artist. For more, please visit www.evanmitchell.net.



To ensure an enjoyable concert experience for all, please refrain from talking and entering or exiting while musicians are performing. Food and drink are prohibited in all concert halls. Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices. Thank you for your cooperation.

Program 001 in the School of Music Events Series of the 2025-2026 academic year.

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