



## Judges for the 2017 Festival



**Dr. John Salmon**

JOHN SALMON has distinguished himself on four continents, as both a classical and jazz artist.

In the United States, he has given recitals for the Dame Myra Hess Series in Chicago, the Discovery Series in Indianapolis, the Van Cliburn Foundation in Fort Worth, and a Busoni Gala at Symphony Space in New York. He has also appeared as recitalist at many colleges and universities across the United States, including Tulane, Vanderbilt, Cincinnati College Conservatory, and San Francisco State University.

His broad repertoire covers the classics – Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, and Brahms – though his involvement with contemporary music is equally strong. Salmon has championed and been at the forefront of performing new works by such celebrated composers as [Dave Brubeck](#), [Nikolai Kapustin](#), and [Lalo Schifrin](#).

His performances have been heard on many radio stations in the U.S., including National Public Radio, WNYC in New York, WFMT in Chicago, and KUSC in Los Angeles; and on the national radio stations of Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Ukraine.

Salmon has been the perennial judge for this festival since 2001. He is also a frequent guest performer at other festivals in the U.S. and Europe, having appeared at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival (Charleston, South Carolina), Piano Festival Northwest (Portland, Oregon), Interlochen Piano Festival (Interlochen, Michigan), Festival Internacional de Música del Mediterráneo (Cartagena, Spain), and the International Bartók Festival (Szombathely, Hungary). Other special appearances include an all-Liszt recital in Mexico City for the [American Liszt Society](#) and an all-Brubeck recital in Washington, DC for the [Music Teachers National Association](#).

His versatility often produces striking juxtapositions. In one concert with the Wilmington (North Carolina) Symphony in 2001, Salmon performed Beethoven's Second Piano Concerto in the first half, and then, in the second half, Dave Brubeck's Elementals for orchestra and jazz trio (with Brubeck's sons, bassist Chris and drummer Dan).

He has recorded two compact discs of Dave Brubeck's classical piano music, one released in 1996 on [Phoenix](#) and the other in 2004 on [Naxos](#).

As guest lecturer, Salmon has spoken on a wide array of topics – e.g., "Beethoven's Shadow" (The Juilliard School), "September 1828: Schubert's Last Three Piano Sonatas" (Boston Conservatory), and "Adding Notes to Classical Scores" (Conservatorio de Música, Morelia, Mexico).

As author, he has covered such subjects as "What Brubeck Got From Milhaud" and "[Urtext, que me veux tu?](#)," appearing in American Music Teacher, The Chronicle of Higher Education, Clavier, [College Music Society Newsletter](#), Piano & Keyboard, and Piano Today. His book, [The Piano Sonatas of Carl Loewe](#), was published by Peter Lang Publishing in 1996.

John Salmon has been a member of the faculty of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro School of Music since 1989. He holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from [The University of Texas at Austin](#); the Master of Music degree from [The Juilliard School](#); the Solistendiplom from the [Hochschule für Musik, Freiburg, Germany](#); and the Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts (philosophy) degrees from [Texas Christian University](#). His awards include the Premio Jaén (1979), the Gina Bachauer Award from Juilliard, a fellowship from the Beethoven Foundation (known nowadays as the [American Pianists Association](#)), and prizes from the 1979 University of Maryland (William Kapell Competition) and 1984 [Busoni](#) competitions. He was born in Fort Worth, Texas in 1954.

Salmon's educational articles:

<http://www.uncg.edu/~jcsalmon/articles.html>

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KEVIN OLSON is an active pianist, composer, and member of the piano faculty at Utah State University, where he teaches piano literature, pedagogy, and accompanying courses. In addition to his collegiate teaching responsibilities, Dr. Olson directs the Utah State University Youth Conservatory, which provides weekly group and private piano instruction to more than 200 pre-college community students. The National Association of Schools of Music has recently recognized the Conservatory as a model for pre-college piano instruction programs. Before teaching at Utah State, he was on the faculty at Elmhurst College near Chicago and Humboldt State University in northern California.

A native of Utah, Olson began composing at age five. When he was twelve, his composition, *An American Trainride*, received the Overall First Prize at the 1983 National PTA Convention at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Since then he has been a Composer in Residence at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and has written music commissioned and performed by groups such as the American Piano Quartet, Chicago a cappella, the Rich Matteson Jazz Festival, Music Teachers National Association, and several piano teacher associations around the country. Olson maintains a large piano studio, teaching students of a variety of ages and abilities. Many of the needs of his own piano students have inspired [more than 100 books and solos published by the FJH Music Company](#), which he joined as a writer in 1994.



**Dr. Kevin Olson**

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**Wynn-Anne Rossi**

WYNN-ANNE ROSSI is a dynamic composer and unique music educator. Her compositions have reached audiences throughout the United States and across the oceans. She has over [100 publications](#), primarily for piano, which are widely distributed online and in music stores. Her repertoire also includes works for vocal and chamber groups, concert band and orchestra. Various commissions have been sponsored by Minnesota Public Radio, the National Endowment for the Arts, Music Teachers National Association and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Wynn-Anne has a specialty for bringing the art of composition to young musicians. She has been offering composition residencies in Minnesota schools since 2003, inspiring hundreds of students to write their own music. Partnerships have included the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, MacPhail Center for Music and the Cowles Center for Dance and Performing Arts. Rossi has also written two comprehensive series that encourage young pianists to compose: “Music by Me” (FJH, with Kevin Olson) and most recently, “Creative Composition Toolbox” (Alfred).

Active as a presenter, Rossi is known for her innovative lectures, workshops and master classes. Musical outreach has taken her from coast to coast and beyond the borders of the United States. Her talks often center on the importance of musical self-expression. “Discover Latin” is one of her most popular presentations, inspired by the 8-book piano series, “Música Latina”.

Rossi was educated at the University of Colorado in theory and composition. Further training included choral conducting at Harvard University and jazz pedagogy through the University of Illinois. She has also studied composition under Pulitzer Prize recipient Aaron Jay Kernis.

What does Wynn-Anne do other than music? She loves to ice-skate or roller-blade, depending on the weather. She practices elementary juggling to inspire humility and often brainstorms while watching red-bellied woodpeckers at her bird feeder. Family members include her husband Greg, Alley the cat and her awesome son, Nick.

For entertaining updates, visit Wynn-Anne Rossi Music on [Facebook](#).

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