

Performer Bios (cont.)

Justin Vines is a 5th year physics graduate student working in gravitation physics under Eanna Flanagan. He began playing the violin in junior high school in Little Rock, Arkansas, taught by Jim Hatch. Continuing through high school, he played in several local orchestras, but most fondly remembers playing in a string quartet with fellow high school students including Klansee Reynolds. At the point of submitting his undergrad applications his plan was to study music, but a senior year physics course changed his mind.

Ben Machta studied cello under Gideon Freudman, who pioneered the musical style 'Cello Bop'. He has performed with the ARHS orchestra led by Patrick Smith, as well as several string trios and quartets, while making occasional appearances with Rosie's Celli band. He returns tonight after several years off pursuing other interests for his Ithaca debut. When not practicing Bach's Contrapunctus 7, Ben can be found studying the properties of lipid membranes, most likely in one of Ithaca's fine coffee establishments.

Kelly Douglass enrolled in her first dance class at the age of four. Learning the nuances of ballet, jazz, modern, and lyrical, Kelly was an original member of her local studio's Youth Ballet Company, performing with them for seven years, where she also competed with the studio's national award-winning team for four years. At Cornell University, she has continued her ballet training with the Department of Theatre. She will be graduating this spring with a Physics major and Astronomy

Yang Zhang began playing piano at a very early age. After intensely pursuing the art for many years, she decided to explore another interest of hers – science. A senior in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, she will be graduating with a double major in Biology and Entomology.

Jolyon Bloomfield started piano lessons at the age of three, and continued until he moved away to university. The pinnacle of his musical career was in his final year of high school, when he organized and performed a fund-raising concert so that he might travel to the National Youth Science Forum, which ultimately set him on the path to physics. In college, Jolyon provided the accompaniment for his dorm musicals, including Little Shop of Horrors and one written in house.

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nocturne

2011/02/24

Program

Performer Bios

W.A Mozart (1756-1791)
Sonata for 4 Hands in D, KV 381
I - Allegro
II - Andante
III - Allegro Molto

**Mermin
Hamidian**

F. Chopin (1810-1849)
Nocturne Op. 9, No. 1
Etude Op. 25, No. 12

Bierbaum

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
The Art of Fugue, BWV 1080
Contrapunctus VII

**Reynolds, Chakram
Vines, Machta**

F. Chopin (1810-1849)
Ballade 1 in G-minor, Op. 23 (excerpt)
Choreography/Performance

**Zhang
Douglass**

M. Ravel (1875-1937)
Sonatine
III - Animé

Bloomfield

L. v. Beethoven (1770-1827)
Variations in C-minor, WoO.80

Mermin

David Mermin started piano lessons when he was 6 or 7. He stopped when he left home for college in 1952, but resumed in Ithaca in the 1970s with Alton Heinz, who taught him for the next thirty years. In college Mermin majored in mathematics, but switched to physics in graduate school. He has been a faculty member at Cornell since 1964.

Mohammad H. Hamidian recently received his Ph.D. in physics and will be continuing his research at Cornell university as a post-doc. His musical career started with the violin in high school where he was a member of North York Honor strings and concertmaster of his high school's symphonic orchestra, occasionally filling in for the bass and viola players. He seriously began his piano studies after entering graduate school. He has been fortunate to study piano performance with Sezi Seskir at Cornell for the past 3 years.

Matt Bierbaum has been involved with music for 56(4)% of his life, playing piano and trumpet in many ensembles and musicals until college. He continued to play in small groups and also began to experiment in composition. Matt came to physics after joining an astrophysics group at Northwestern for two years. Now he is doing condensed matter theory as a 2nd year graduate student here at Cornell.

Klansee Reynolds teaches violin, viola, and music theory in Rochester, New York. She fell in love with the violin at an early age, and quickly rose to the top of the Arkansas student violin scene. She studied violin at Southern Methodist University and then graduated with a Masters in Music Theory from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester. She now spends most of her time sharing her love of music with 3-10 year olds, but occasionally finds the time to do the same with certain physics graduate students.

Srivatsan Chakram is a 5th year graduate student who works in Mukund Vengalattore's ultracold atom group. Justin Vines infected him early on in graduate school with a love for Bach and is largely responsible for his limited western musical education. His piano skills were born and grew in music sessions with his housemates Justin and Ben. His childhood was spent in Kalpakkam, a small town in Tamil Nadu, India, where he was taught to sing Carnatic Indian classical music, mostly by his mother.