

**Holly Kordahl**  
**Piano**

**Doctoral Recital Series**  
**Katzin Concert Hall**  
**Sunday, October 29, 2017 • 12:00**

**ASU** Herberger Institute  
FOR DESIGN AND THE ARTS  
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**School of Music**

## Program

### French Suite No. 5 in G Major

- I. Allemande
- II. Courante
- III. Sarabande
- IV. Gavotte
- V. Bourree
- VI. Loure
- VII. Gigue

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

### Sonata in E Major, Op. 109

- I. Vivace ma non troppo — Adagio espressivo
- II. Prestissimo
- III. Gesangvoll, mit innigster Empfindung

Ludwig van Beethoven  
(1770-1827)

*\*\*There will be a 10-minute intermission\*\**

### Sechs Klavierstücke, Op. 118

- I. Intermezzo
- II. Intermezzo
- III. Ballade
- IV. Intermezzo
- V. Romanze
- VI. Intermezzo

Johannes Brahms  
(1833-1897)

### Pacific Suite

- I. Great Barrier Reef
- II. Mariana Trench
- III. Sunlit Zone
- IV. Bikini Atoll

Holly Kordahl  
(b. 1985)

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*Pacific Suite* (2016), by Holly Kordahl, is a four-movement work for solo piano that incorporates elements of several musical idioms, including impressionism, tintinnabuli, post-modern quotation, minimalism and improvisation. The work features varying levels of performer independence and improvisation. Each movement of *Pacific Suite* is based on aspects of the Pacific Ocean that inspire a sense of awe: the Great Barrier Reef, the Mariana Trench, the Sunlit Zone, and Bikini Atoll.

The inspiration for the first movement is the world's largest coral reef, the Great Barrier Reef. This habitat is full of different species of plant and animal life, with an abundance of activity and bustle. The movement is also an expression of the majesty of nature.

The second movement represents the Mariana Trench, the deepest point in the Pacific Ocean. The tone of the movement is evocative of the dark, peaceful abyss of the deep ocean. The Mariana Trench features tectonic plates undergoing subduction, which is a method through which new material is brought from the Earth's mantle to create volcanoes and islands. This movement is almost entirely improvised using given instructions.

The third movement is inspired by the sparkle, waves and *joie de vivre* of the sunlit zone, the uppermost, brightest slice of ocean where the majority of ocean creatures live. The performer has an opportunity to improvise on a beloved theme of Debussy.

The fourth movement portrays the disquiet and danger of the threat of nuclear warfare. Bikini Atoll, a set of islands in the Pacific, was the site of numerous nuclear tests in the 1940s and 1950s. The movement features birdsong, cathedral bell tones, chant-like melody and themes from earlier movements.

Out of respect for the performers and those audience members around you, please turn all beepers, cell phones and watches to their silent mode. Thank you.