

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great excitement that we at CSU Pueblo look forward to the thirteenth annual Pueblo Keyboard Arts Festival, scheduled to take place November 3-4, 2023. Combining quality musical programs with educational opportunities for young and college age pianists, we hope to provide a welcoming platform for all interested in immersing themselves in the art of keyboard playing. It is my hope that participants and audience will find this Festival serves as a source of inspiration, knowledge, and one of the many elements that lead to the growth of the "complete musician."

The 2023 Festival weekend offers a number of opportunities for students:

- Masterclasses, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., November 3, in the excellent atmosphere of Hoag Recital Hall, are a great opportunity to work with a CSU Pueblo faculty and enjoy the "Big Hall" acoustics, playing on our premier concert instrument.
- The PKAF Competition, 9:00 a.m., November 4, offers \$1000 in cash prizes and scholarships in the Junior, Senior, and Piano Ensemble divisions. This event gives students opportunity to showcase their accomplishments at the keyboard. The experience will prove positive and valuable for their growth as they present seasoned repertoire, or a new program, preparing for bigger competitions and important performances.
- "Monster" Piano Concert, 7:00 p.m., November 4, an all-piano extravaganza featuring faculty, guest artists from around the state, current CSU Pueblo students, alumni, and friends. If you want to know more what SIX grand pianos can do together.....we hope to see you there.

We are excited to present the US premier of select movements from *Voices at the End*, a digital concerto for six pianos, audio track, and video. Please read more about the work below:

About John Psathas' - *Voices at the End*

Born in New Zealand in 1966 the son of Greek immigrant parents, John Psathas is a genre-crossing composer whose formidable quantity of music draws on a broad spectrum of classical, jazz, rock and electronica. Film scores and music with digital audio also form part of an eclectic work list that reference an impressively wide cultural framework. Acclaim came early on with *Matre's Dance* (1991), a high-octane duet for percussion and piano that later secured his international reputation through championship by Evelyn Glennie. Indeed, percussion has been a central stimulus for the composer who has subsequently found expressive outlet in a Double Concerto for percussion, piano and orchestra and *Djinn*, a concerto for marimba.

Voices at the End digital audio landscape comprises a pre-recorded soundscape of recitations, singing and instrumental performances created by Psathas in collaboration with the multi-media artist and composer [David Downes](#). Of *Voices at the End*, Psathas observes it 'tackles the uncomfortable condition of perpetual growth and its ruinous effect on our shared environment but offers hope in the form of the work being done to ensure the survival of our species'.

The work was originally inspired by the 2015 film *Planetary*, a provocative documentary by author and environmental activist Joanna Macy who investigates our cosmic origins and poses questions about potential ways forward for us, and our planet's future.

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Please don't hesitate to contact us should you have any questions regarding the events or if I may assist you in any way: Dr. Zahari Metchkov, zahari.metchkov@csupueblo.edu

Application form and information can be found at:

<https://www.csupueblo.edu/music/festivals/pueblo-keyboard-arts-festival.html>