

Guest Recital

Keys Across America

Mackenzie Melemed, piano

Saturday, November 15, 2025

5:00 p.m.

Harper Hall

Keys Across America

From <i>Rodeo</i> [9'] Buckaroo Holiday	Aaron Copland (1900-1990)
<i>Ballade</i> , op. 6 [9']	Amy Beach (1867-1944)
<i>Threnody...October 2024</i> [12']	Laura Kaminsky (b. 1956)
<i>New England Idyls</i> , op. 62 [7'] I. An Old Garden V. In Deep Woods X. The Joy of Autumn	Edward MacDowell (1860-1908)
<i>Union (Concert Paraphrase on National Airs)</i> , op. 48 [7']	Louis-Moreau Gottschalk (1829-1869)

• INTERMISSION •

<i>Lament and Variations</i> [15']	Avner Dorman (b. 1975)
<i>Meditation</i> [3']	Florence Price (1887-1953)
<i>2 Pieces</i> , op. 42 [7'] Scherzo Etude Arabesque	Arthur Foote (1853-1937)
<i>Piano Sonata No. 1</i> [14'] Half Note = 72 Adagio (Theme and Variations) Toccata: Clear, Fast, and Hard	Ned Rorem (1923-2022)

Mackenzie Melemed, piano

PROGRAM NOTES

“Keys Across America” is the largest tour of American piano music in recent history, launched by internationally renowned classical pianist Mackenzie Melemed. His educational project, featuring recitals and masterclasses, celebrates USA 250 with music spanning 150+ years of creative output, exploring the history of America’s most influential composers. The program also features two new works written especially for Mackenzie by American composers Laura Kaminsky and Avner Dorman.

GUEST BIO

Recipient of the 2022 Avery Fisher Career Grant, 30-year-old American pianist **Mackenzie Melemed** has emerged as one of his generation’s most distinctive musical voices. A child prodigy, Melemed gave 500 concerts before age 13, including an appearance on *The Rosie O’Donnell Show* as well as five performances at The White House. A laureate of the 2021 American Pianists Awards and the 1st China International Music Competition, Melemed has collaborated with conductors Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Gerard Schwarz, Michael Stern, Mei-Ann Chen, Yoel Levi, and many others. He has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Helsinki Philharmonic, and the KBS Symphony at venues like Beijing’s National Centre for the Performing Arts, the Helsinki Music Centre, and Warsaw’s National Philharmonic. Melemed is a Steinway Artist and graduate of The Juilliard School’s prestigious Artist Diploma program, where he studied with Robert McDonald and Emanuel Ax.

We collectively acknowledge that Lawrence University is situated on the ancestral homelands of the Menominee and Ho-Chunk people.